

It's not too late to change rigid plans and let millions more of us bid the Queen farewell

ROBERT HARDMAN
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Home to her family



HER coffin brightly lit as evening fell, the Queen arrived home at Buckingham Palace for the final time last night.

The iron gates swung open after the poignant journey to her

By REBECCA ENGLISH

ROYAL EDITOR

London residence, where she was met by her family as respectful crowds thronged outside.

Mourners had lined the 17-mile

route from RAF Northolt as the late monarch's oak coffin – draped in her historic Royal Standard and topped with white flowers – made its last

journey to the capital in the state hearse. Waiting for her, out of view of the cameras, were the King and Queen Consort, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex, as well as the new Prince and Princess of Wales.

The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Edward's wife Sophie and their

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ELIZABETH R 1926-2022

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children Lady Louise and James, Viscount Severn were also there, as were Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie, and their husbands. The late monarch's adored niece and nephew, Lady Sarah Chatto and Lord Snowdon, Princess Margaret's children, were also present.

It was the final chance for her family to spend time with their much-loved matriarch privately 'before handing Her Majesty over to the nation', a senior royal aide said. Along the route from RAF Northolt, some in the crowds wiped tears from their eyes and laid down umbrellas as a mark of respect, while others cheered a rousing 'hip hip hooray' as they caught a glimpse of the royal claret-trimmed vehicle, bearing the Queen's Royal Cypher.

As the hearse finally made its way through central London, the lights of the capital sparkling in the rain, the mood was sombre but somehow celebratory of a life well lived.

Earlier William and Kate – the latter wearing, as if in honour of the Queen, a necklace and earrings of the late monarch's favourite pearls – could be seen arriving by car at the palace.

They were driven separately from Windsor to Harry and Meghan, who are currently staying in Frogmore Cottage.

Guardsmen of the Household Division marched into the front gates of Buckingham Palace as the hearse swung past the Queen Victoria Memorial, slowing down as it entered.

Understandably, as so much of the national period of mourning is in public, the cameras were switched off as the hearse travelled into the historic quadrangle.

In the quadrangle was a guard of honour formed from the 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards, who gave the royal salute as the hearse came to a stop.

The coffin was then carried up through the Grand Entrance, where the Queen's immediate family were waiting for what has been described as a 'small private family gathering the evening before the coffin is effectively handed to the nation for the lying in state'. Standing at the Grand Entrance were King Charles and

Camilla, surrounded by the late monarch's children and grandchildren and their partners, including William and Kate, and Harry and Meghan.

Today the Queen's coffin will be carried in a horse-drawn gun carriage to Westminster Hall, where it will lie in state for four days ahead of Monday's state funeral.

The scenes yesterday came as Princess Anne, who has barely left her mother's side since her death last Thursday at Balmoral, issued a moving statement in which she spoke of how fortunate she felt to have been able to share her 'dearest mother's' last hours.

She also described it as 'an honour and a privilege' to accompany the Queen on her final journeys as she travelled with the monarch's coffin, firstly from Balmoral to Edinburgh, then to London.

She said: 'I was fortunate to share the last 24 hours of my dear-

Kate wore the Queen's favourite pearls

est mother's life. It has been an honour and a privilege to accompany her on her final journeys.

'Witnessing the love and respect shown by so many on these journeys has been both humbling and uplifting. We will all share unique memories. I offer my thanks to each and every one who share our sense of loss. We may have been reminded how much of her presence and contribution to our national identity we took for granted.

'I am also so grateful for the support and understanding offered to my dear brother Charles as he accepts the added responsibilities of the monarch.' The poignant scenes came as:

■ From 5pm today hundreds of thousands of mourners will bid farewell to the monarch as she lies in state at Westminster Hall.

■ But there were fears that

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Applause: Crowds outside Buckingham Palace, The Mall behind them, cheer and take photos as the motorcade transporting the royal coffin arrives at the gates last night

Together in grief, young royals gather for last private goodbye



Arriving at the Palace: Harry and Meghan and - in a separate car - William and Kate



Royal wave: The King and Queen pass through the crowds of cheering well-wishers who waited hours in the rain to catch a glimpse of the royal arrivals



Solemn silence ... then tears and finally rousing cheers

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millions could miss out on paying their final respects amid warnings people could have to queue for 35 hours to see her coffin.

■ More than 33,000 people queued to see the coffin at rest in St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh, including one woman who visited at least seven times.

■ Charles yesterday vowed to follow the Queen's 'shining example' as he charmed Northern Ireland in the first visit by a British King to the country in nearly 80 years.

■ Buckingham Palace will block Russia, Belarus and Myanmar from attending the Queen's funeral – but Australia will get a dozen invitations as part of an anti-republican charm offensive.

■ European football's governing body has banned British football clubs from playing the national anthem before matches in honour of the Queen.

■ And dozens of staff working for King Charles were warned they might be made redundant as his household at Clarence

House is effectively disbanded. Yesterday applause rang out in the heart of Edinburgh as the Queen left the Scottish capital for the final time.

Tens of thousands of people had paid their last respects at St Giles', with so many turning out that the queue had to be closed after noon. Carried out of the church to the sound of a lone piper, the hearse carrying the Queen's coffin then departed for Edinburgh Airport.

As it did, the crowd, who had gathered in

huge numbers in the late afternoon sunshine, burst into applause.

Princess Anne, accompanied by her husband Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence, travelled behind her late mother in a separate car.

A guard of honour by the King's Bodyguard for Scotland and pipers followed the cortege towards Edinburgh Castle and on to the airport, where Princess Anne could be seen boarding the RAF C-17 Globemaster – more recently used for aid missions in



Picture: GARETH FULLER/PA WIRE

Ukraine and to help evacuate people from Afghanistan – that would take mother and daughter back to London.

The national anthem rang out as the hulking aircraft taxied down the runway and soared into the sunset.

Rain poured as it finally touched down in north-west London just before 7pm, watched by Prime Minister Liz Truss and Defence Secretary Ben Wallace, before being carried off in sombre silence and into the waiting state hearse. On parade was a guard

of honour made up of service personnel from the Queen's Colour Squadron of the RAF, who presented arms when the coffin was first seen. The King's Colour for the RAF was lowered in salute.

The new state hearse has been specially designed to be used at the Queen's funeral by the Royal Household and Jaguar Land Rover. Her Majesty was consulted on the plans, as her late husband Prince Philip was when he chose a specially-adapted Land Rover last year. It is finished in royal claret,

the same colour as the official Royal and State vehicles kept in the Royal Mews at Buckingham Palace, and used by Members of the Royal Family on official duties.

It also features the Queen's personal Royal Cypher and has been designed to allow members of the public to have a clear view of the coffin as it travels through London and Windsor over the next few days.

Princess Anne gave a deep curtsy while her husband Sir Tim bowed as the coffin slowly passed them to begin the journey to

Buckingham Palace, surrounded by police outriders.

It was a moving return to the 300-year-old seat of power that the Queen affectionately knew as the 'office'.

The bearer party, from the Queen's Company 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards, then carried the coffin into the Bow Room and in a poignant moment the sovereign's piper, Pipe Major Paul Burns of the Royal Regiment of Scotland, played a haunting

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ELIZABETH R 1926-2022



Raining over them: Brollies, anoraks and mobile phones at the ready as the hearse makes its slow progress from RAF Northolt, north west London



Bumper to bumper: Motorists on the A40 in west London abandoned their cars and lined up on the central reservation to catch a glimpse of the passing procession

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lament. The Bow Room is located in the centre of the West Wing of Buckingham Palace, with direct access to its 39-acre garden via a set of double doors.

It named after the window that runs along one side and has been the scene of many an historic family photograph over the years.

The coffin remained there at rest overnight, tenderly watched over by some of her most loyal staff.

Today the carriage procession carrying the coffin will leave Buckingham Palace at 2.22pm, specifically timed in order to arrive at Westminster Hall at 3pm.

Accompanying the coffin on foot will be the King, Andrew, Anne, Edward, William, Harry, Peter Phillips, Sir Tim, the Duke of Gloucester and the Earl of Snowdon.

Camilla, Kate, Sophie and Meghan will travel to the hall by car.

A 20-minute service will be held, led by the Archbishop of Canterbury and accompanied by the Dean of Westminster, with the official period of lying in state beginning at 5pm.

The Queen's closed coffin will rest on a raised platform, which is called a catafalque, inside the Palace of Westminster enabling members of the public to file past

and pay their respects. It will be open 24 hours a day until it closes at 6.30am on Monday, September 19.

While all eyes today will be on the Queen's coffin, the family dynamics of the procession will also prove fascinating – particularly as to whether brothers Princes William and Harry will walk alongside each other.

Working members of the Royal Family will be in uniform, meaning that both Prince Andrew and his nephew Prince Harry will

noticeably be in morning dress. In a statement released ahead of today's procession through the capital, Harry's press secretary said: 'Prince Harry... will wear a morning suit throughout the events honouring his grandmother.'

'His decade of military service is not determined by the uniform he wears and we respectfully ask that focus remain on the life and legacy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.'

The mood of the crowds in the sparkling rain was celebratory of a life well lived



Pictures: AP/LNP/BRADLEY PAGE

Packed pavements: A policeman bows his head as the Queen's hearse passes the thousands of people crowding the streets around Hyde Park Corner last night



Respect: Workmen in hi-vis jackets downed tools at Marble Arch to join the masses lining the streets filming the historic passage to the Palace

ELIZABETH R 1926-2022

She touched down at 6.55pm.



Flying home: The Queen's coffin is carried aboard at Edinburgh airport. Inset: Crowds on Scottish capital's Royal Mile

KITTYHAWK has flown her last. At 6.55 last night, the most travelled monarch in history touched down for the final time — on this Earth at least.

The Queen's RAF C-17 landed at RAF Northolt dwarfing everything around it — a vast plane to carry such a tiny coffin. Has it ever carried a more precious load?

Like every flight bearing the Queen, this one bore the call sign Kittyhawk. Air traffic control will hear that stirring signal no more.

As ever, the Princess Royal — the great royal heroine of recent days — was at her mother's side.

After leaving her beloved Scotland — East Lothian positively glowing in the late afternoon sun — the Queen arrived in London to find that

*All the way from
RAF Northolt to the
Palace, they bowed,
sobbed and clapped*

evening drizzle had done nothing to deter the colossal crowds which continue to be a source of great comfort to her family (if not the authorities).

Last night, she was at rest at Buckingham Palace. Even after all the events of recent days, it was still extraordinary to think that this was her last night in the building which shaped her entire life.

You can chart her 96 years simply in terms of appearances on that balcony — from little girl, wartime subaltern, dazzling bride and Coronation Queen, right up to this summer.

She had entertained pretty much every significant figure in post-war history in those richly decorated rooms.

Yet there can never have been an evening as loaded with history and poignancy as the one she spent there yesterday, surrounded by just a tiny coterie of those who knew and loved her most.

It was a night wreathed with a sense of finality, of course, but it was also a first of sorts.

It is safe to say that the Queen had

never before spent a night in the Palace's Bow Room, the handsome centre of the 'semi-state apartments' overlooking the garden.

It is there that her coffin will continue to stay 'at rest' this morning as all the Palace staff have the chance to say their personal goodbyes to a boss universally admired and, indeed, adored.

This afternoon, the Queen will leave royal HQ for the final time when her coffin travels with all the

majesty the nation can muster, her family and friends following behind. Then the full obsequies of state commence and ceremonial



by Robert
Hardman

*Traffic ground to a halt as
commuters left their cars to salute*

machinery rooted in a thousand years of history takes over.

Last night was, officially, an 'operational' return from Edinburgh to London. It was not even meant to be a major occasion. Yet it was as emotionally charged — and dramatic — as any of the greatest state arrivals of the reign.

All the way from RAF Northolt to the Palace they bowed, sobbed, clapped and tossed the occasional rose into her path.

The westbound traffic on the A40 simply ground to a halt as commuters abandoned their cars to climb the central reservation and salute.

Who could ever have imagined crowds ten deep outside Ealing's drive-thru KFC? The nearer she came, the bigger the crowds, the louder the cheers. Past Paddington Station — now that is a name we have heard a lot of late — the pavements were at saturation point.

The route became grander as she turned down Park Lane and past the site of her childhood home on Piccadilly (she loved it there, and hated the move across to Buckingham Palace).

As the hearse reached the Palace, we did not just hear clapping and cheering, but even whistles of appreciation.

It is fascinating that there is still no settled mode of honouring Her Late Majesty. Mourn her, celebrate her — it is up to the individual.

But now her great journey across her kingdom is at an end. Let the full majesty of the greatest send-off of all times now begin in earnest.



Kittyhawk had flown her last

After flight from Scotland, Queen's cortege brings traffic to a standstill on drive into capital



PICTURES: AFP/PA/AP/MARK LARGE



Faithful: The Princess Royal arrives at RAF Northolt

Final journey:
The coffin of
Queen Elizabeth II
is carried away to
Buckingham Palace



Why can't more

By **Sam Greenhill, Kumail Jaffer, Jason Groves and Isabelle Stanley**

MILLIONS could miss out on paying their final respects to the Queen, it was warned last night. From today mourners will be able to bid farewell to the monarch as she lies in state at Westminster Hall until her funeral on Monday.

But they face having to join a line snaking back up to five miles – and could have to queue for as long as 35 hours.

Up to a million people are expected to seek to pay their respects to her coffin in central London. But officials estimate that at most 400,000 will be able to do so – meaning more than half could be turned away disappointed.

There were calls yesterday to lengthen the Queen's final journey to her resting

'Reality failure by the planners'

place at Windsor Castle to maximise the number of people who can line the route.

Whitehall officials said plans were in place to fast-track vulnerable people in the queue for the lying-in-state and ensure as many people as possible get a chance to say goodbye.

But experts including a former Downing Street adviser warned making people wait overnight – especially the elderly – risked doing them harm.

Yesterday a 75-year-old grandfather in the queue was the first to buckle.

The arrangements for marking the monarch's death have come under intense scrutiny, with millions expected to flock to London in the coming days. Last night the Queen was returned from Edinburgh to London by the RAF.

But the decision to cancel proposals to transport her coffin by the Royal Train meant far fewer people could witness the spectacle.

The Government last night published details for people wanting to file past the Queen's coffin at Westminster Hall in the Palace of Westminster.

Her lying-in-state begins at 5pm today and lasts four-and-a-half days until her state funeral on Monday. It will be open 24 hours a day.

Ministers have warned the queue, stretching along the Thames, could last between 17 and 35 hours, with little opportunity to sit down or sleep.

Families have been advised to consider whether children can cope. Some 1,500 soldiers, sailors and airmen have been drafted in to assist stewards.

Jonathan Haslam, communications director at No 10 under Sir John Major, said: 'It is marvellous that so many want to pay their respects to Her Majesty. But not everyone will be able to do so in person.'

'There has been a reality failure by the planners. When someone said, "People could be queueing for 30 hours", who said, "That's insane, we need a better answer"?'

He told Times Radio: 'I've got real concerns about the health of people of my generation, and even younger people.'

'Good people may be doing themselves harm by joining long queues. Her Majesty would not have wanted that, nor does the King. There are fair ways of getting as many people as possible through Westminster Hall efficiently. Sensibly-allocated number-timed tickets, using

As it emerges only 400,000 could see the lying-in-state, calls grow for monarch's final journey to Windsor to be extended

the technology we have, would be a sensible way forward. I have a fear that we might be sleepwalking into a really difficult situation.'

Mourners began queueing at midday on Monday, some 53 hours before the start of the lying-in-state at 5pm today, along the embankment on the south side of Lambeth Bridge.

One of the first to arrive, 75-year-old David Carlson, buckled in the rain yesterday. The former soldier, of Wandsworth, south London, refused to sacrifice his place and vowed to walk into Westminster Hall today 'if it's the last thing I do'.

In true British style the queue has taken on a carnival atmosphere. It was joined by the Archbishop of York leading a

'A difficult situation'

singsong last night, who said: 'The Queen's last gift was to bring us all together.' He declared the strength of the mourners 'an inspiration'.

Dame Esther Rantzen, founder of the Silver Line charity, said: 'A lot of people want to take part in the historic moment and see the lying-in-state. But for anyone fragile, I am worried it may be impossible for them to see the late Queen's coffin.'

'The long queues could be a real problem, and a timed-ticket system would have been a very good idea.'

Whitehall officials have stressed that frail and elderly people struggling with the physical demands of the queue will be fast-tracked.

A Government source said

stewards will be asked to 'proactively' identify them and ensure they get assistance. They said: 'They will take them out of the queue, sit them down and make sure they are OK, and then look to see if they can be moved forward in the queue to make it easier for them.'

'For the first time there will also be a special access queue, with timed access for those whose circumstances mean they cannot queue for long periods.'

Officials have based models on estimates that around 3,000 people an hour can pass through Westminster Hall. But one source said this was 'on the conservative side', and could end up significantly higher.

The Government has secured 500 portable toilets, to be installed along the queue. Some public buildings will also be opening their facilities.

Officials also plan to provide predicted queuing times, but a source acknowledged these would initially be 'rough and ready estimates'.

Downing Street denied there would be a cap on visitor numbers but said some who want to pay their respects in person are likely to be disappointed.

The PM's spokesman said: 'We do want everyone who wants her to see her to be able to but we recognise there is a limited amount of time and a great deal of people who wish to do so.'

After Monday's state funeral the coffin will follow a 'processional route' to Hyde Park Corner then transfer to a hearse to travel to the final committal at Windsor Castle. There have been calls to extend the route so more people can witness Her Majesty's final journey.

Comment – Page 26

THIS will be the greatest collective farewell of our lifetimes. The scenes playing out daily, from the country lanes of Aberdeenshire to the Mall in London, are a reflection of the visceral urge felt by millions to pay their respects to someone whose sudden absence has left us reeling.

But we have seen nothing yet. I have no doubt that in the next few days, we will be bowled over by the determination of millions – tens of millions – of people to salute their late Sovereign in person.

People are not just flocking from across the kingdom to say goodbye. They are crossing the globe.

And this is not a case of me-too selfie culture. This is a genuine manifestation of one of the Queen's most famous quotes: 'Grief is the price we pay for love.'

And that is why the current plans for the lying-in-state, which begins at 5pm today, are, I fear, going to be so deeply inadequate.

This is not the Palace's fault, let alone that of the King, who is rallying every corner of the realm behind him in an exemplary way. This is down to the Government and the authorities.

And there is only so much that they can do to organise a steady flow of human beings through a fixed point over a fixed period, with strict rules governing security and decorum.

For the next few days, noble, medieval Westminster Hall is going to be like all four terminals of Heathrow Airport combined (that is to say, at best estimates, pushing through 100,000 people per 24-hour cycle). We

The current plans are going to be deeply inadequate

have to face the fact that not everyone who wants to will be able to process past the Queen's coffin.

So if the people cannot come to the monarch, then the monarch needs to come to them.

Some of us, myself included, have been making this point to the relevant authorities for years, knowing that this day would come.

However, I have observed a number of recurring issues. First, there are so many departments and agencies involved – the Department of Culture, the Metropolitan Police, the Mayor of London, the Cabinet Office, the Royal Parks and the Ministry of Defence – that it is very easy to shunt any awkward questions on to someone else.

Second, these arrangements have been planned for so long that the people involved in making them have often moved on or switched jobs several times over.

Third, when talking to some of those involved over the years, I have been reminded of that old military phenomenon: Generals fighting the last war.

Time and again, I have been referred back to the Queen Mother's lying-in-state. That was based on the blueprint for Sir Winston Churchill's in 1965 which, in turn, was modelled on George VI's in 1952.

However, Britain is another country today. People are less inclined to take no for an answer. What will happen

HOW I SEE IT



by **Robert Hardman**

when millions are told that they cannot join the queue, but then find that politicians and foreign dignitaries no one has ever heard of are sailing through a back-door VIP lane? Grief and anger are joined at the hip.

Many will, I am sure, decide instead to line the route of the funeral procession, either as the Queen's coffin is carried from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall today, or on Monday, the day of the state funeral.

On that day, the funeral parade will follow a 'processional route' from Westminster Abbey to Hyde Park Corner, where the coffin will transfer to a hearse for its journey to the final committal at Windsor.

Once there, the coffin is expected to follow another 'processional route' up the Long Walk to the castle. Even then, it is highly unlikely that these two funeral parades, lengthy though they will certainly be, will be enough.

So, what to do? I believe that a perfectly workable solution lies in looking back to two seismic moments during the Queen's reign. One was the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, in August 1997. The other was the 2012 London Olympics.

Halfway through the turbulent week before Diana's funeral, there were rows between the government and police as it became clear just how big the event might be.

Then someone came up with a simple suggestion that worked brilliantly: Extend the funeral route.

So, on the night before the funeral, the Princess's coffin was moved from its resting place at St James's Palace and returned to her old home at Kensington Palace, from where she would leave the following day.

This was presented as a 'final homecoming', as indeed it was. However, the main reason was to add another mile to the funeral route, thus absorbing a vast number of extra mourners.

Demand for Westminster Hall this week would certainly have been reduced had ministers stuck to a brilliant original plan dreamed up by a wise veteran of state occasions in the Lord Chamberlain's Office at Buckingham Palace.

That plan had been for the Queen to travel from Scotland to London overnight in a special illuminated railway carriage pulled by the Royal Train.

The image of millions of people

bid her farewell?

I've warned for years that millions more will want to see the Queen than has been planned for. But there IS still time to act

Grief: Huge queues by the Thames to see King George VI's coffin in February 1952

saluting their monarch from fields and embankments as she processed slowly through her borders and shires is a glorious, even poetic, one. Sadly, health and safety considerations later quashed this scheme.

For whatever reason, the powers that be have also decided against including the Thames in the Queen's funeral arrangements, as they did so powerfully when Britain sent Churchill on his way. However, there is no reason why they cannot extend the parade route down to Windsor.

During the 2012 Olympics, the organisers used the Royal Parks to brilliant effect, including sending cyclists through Richmond Park. At Windsor, as we saw at the wedding of Harry and Meghan in 2018, the stretch of the Long Walk from Datchet Road to the castle

Common sense innovation can save the day

can cope with a maximum of 200,000 people.

Why not take the coffin on a longer route encompassing all three miles of the Long Walk, so that many times that number can be accommodated?

This has to be better than simply taking her down the A4, the route used for the Queen Mother's funeral in 2002.

I talked to the Lord Chamberlain of the day, Lord Luce, about that journey while writing my biography of the Queen. He said it was the most moving thing he had ever seen, with around a million people lining the route on a working day.

How many more, I wonder, can we expect for the Queen?

The original plan for her return to the Palace had been to make it purely 'operational' – in other words, it was not to have been a public event. The fact that the police then announced the route with 24 hours to go gave people the chance of being part of it and led to the huge crowds seen last night. Every time the UK has an opportunity to pay its respects like this, the pressure eases on Westminster Hall.

The trouble with well-laid plans (and few have been more well-laid than 'Operation London Bridge') is that they can become ossified.

Diana's procession and the Olympics showed how quick thinking and common-sense innovation can save the day. Let's ensure that the events of the next few days are the same.

**GEORGE VI:
1952**



Piper's lament guides mourners into cathedral



MORE than 33,000 people queued to see the Queen's coffin in St Giles' Cathedral – including one woman who visited at least seven times.

Elizabeth Sabey, 43, said she wanted to pass through as many times as possible and 'felt God's presence' at the vigil. Some who lined up in Edinburgh waited up to 11 hours with mourners serenaded by a lone bagpiper.

Among those in the line were well-wishers who had travelled from Lon-

By **Lewis Pennock**

don to avoid the even longer queues that have been predicted when Her Majesty lies in state at Westminster Hall from this afternoon.

Miss Sabey, who joined the queue in Edinburgh at 5pm on Monday, said: 'It's beautiful, it's not just like a gimmick, like "Let me see how many times I can go in".

'I've got a really strong faith and I

just felt God's presence, like a unity among people, no divisions. Everybody came to pay their respects and it felt so peaceful and beautiful.

'Sometimes I've gone in and they've been praying or they've been changing the guards around her. It's a once in a lifetime experience.'

Catherine Gray had travelled from London to pay her respects in Scotland. She said passing the coffin was 'one of the most emotional moments of my life'.

AS the sky darkens and the rain sets in, the small crowd huddles against the concrete wall in anoraks, red woolly hats and Union Jack flags.

They're queuing on the south side of Lambeth Bridge to file past the Queen's coffin, open for viewings from 5pm today and anticipated to attract 330,000 visitors at a rate of 3,000 an hour.

And this lot really don't want to miss it.

Which is why, when there was talk of crowd controls and quotas and warnings from the Department of Culture of queues snaking round half of London, some of them, including Vanessa Nanthakumaran, 56, Anne Daley and Grace Gothard (right at the front) raced down here.

They have been here since Monday and, by the time I arrived yesterday shortly after noon, their little gang had also been joined by a historian, a carer, a professor, a retired construction worker, a medium and a spattering of others – making a grand total of ten. Like most of them, retired gardener Martin J Shanahan, um'ed and ah'ed about when to join the queue.

'As my mum always said... it's better to arrive three hours early than five minutes late!'

Three hours?! As we chat in the drizzle, there's a good 28 hours to go before the queue can even start moving. But this lot don't care about the wait, or the wet. They're warmed right through by their love for the late Queen.

'She was such a brilliant, brilliant woman,' says number five in the queue Sarah Langley, 55, eyes brimming. 'We've all had jobs that we hated and we just jacked them in, she stuck with hers for 70 years and, my God, did she do it well!'

Delroy Morrison, 61 and number four in the queue, feels the same and, despite having had two heart attacks, is here for the duration. 'As long as my heart keeps going, I'll be here for her,' he says. 'It's the last thing I can do after all she's done for us. This is a piece of cake in comparison.'

Even so, it's not comfortable.

On top of having to deal with the rain, the dreary DCMS 'banned list' decrees that queuers are not allowed to bring tents, sleeping bags, chairs, hampers – not even a rogue Paddington Bear.

Which meant that Sarah came straight from the end of her shift as a railway station customer service ambassador at midnight on Monday and, so far, has grabbed a sin-

gle hour's sleep on the wet concrete with her head on her bag. 'I am not a rule breaker, so I came with nothing,' she says. 'But I needed to come now as I'm back at work at 6.30am on Thursday, so I only had a small window to see her.'

Delroy – a retired building contractor who once insulated some of the windows in Buckingham Palace – arrived at 8.30am, with some

boxes of diced apple and carrots and a warm woolly hat from his native Jamaica.

Meanwhile, David Carlson, a 75-year-old ex-serviceman, came fuelled by a single sandwich and 'plenty of cigarettes' and added bullishly, 'If I have to stand the whole time, I will.'

Impressive stuff. But perhaps a teeny bit annoying that a different set of rules seems to apply to the three ladies in positions one, two and three, who are festooned with flags, clutching royal memorabilia and have been holding court to the world's press all day from matching green camping chairs, under a beige gazebo erected by the council to keep them dry. Even the Archbishop of York pops in to see them at one stage to join them in song.

As one queuer mutters, *sotto voce*: 'It feels a bit like the royal enclosure. Them sitting in their throne room! The rest of us in the

rain!' Thankfully, as the afternoon wears on, the rain stops and the throng grows.

Mariean Kaewthong, originally from Thailand, arrives from Wrexham with dahlias and a new tent that she isn't allowed to put up. Gary Keen, 55, and Lisa Simms, 54, join using mobility aids, undaunted at the prospect of a night on the streets. One chap declares it a doddle compared to the queueing he's done to see U2 over the last 44 years.

And Stephen, a ponytailed medium from Wakefield, tells me that, while he often communicates with the dead, he can't speak to the Queen right now. 'She's resting, bless her! She's got a lot of people to catch up with.'

By 4.30pm the crowd has more than tripled, the ladies under the gazebo are singing Praise my Soul the King of Heaven and Sarah is reeling after learning that MPs and parliamentary workers automati-

cally qualify with a plus one, without having to queue all night. 'That's totally pants!' she cries.

Meanwhile, further down the line, poor David suffers a funny turn, buckles onto the pavement and is helped up by queuers. It turns out a single sandwich and a packet of ciggies isn't the perfect preparation after all.

Straight home for him for a hot bath, you'd think. But no chance. He's not going anywhere, unless it's via Westminster Hall.

'I'm not giving up now, if it's the last thing I do I'll be walking in there tomorrow!' he says, puffing on a rallying fag.

As dusk approaches, there is talk of numbered wrist bands so people can dart off to the loo, get some food, or snatch a little lie-down without losing their place. According to a rather officious security guard, the first 2,000 will get them,

'Is this really what she would have wanted?'

and, after that, it'll be 'dog eat dog!' Golly. So the next 328,000 will just have to cross their legs?

The whole set-up is rather odd. A bit like those mad Wimbledon camping queues of old – but without any tents, or beer, or music – or much camaraderie, from what I've seen today. And unlike Wimbledon, there's no alternative way to guarantee seeing the Queen lying in state – no online tickets, no ballot, nothing – other than waiting in the rain.

Which, of course, rules out anyone who can't bunk off work, or who has children to look after, or is fragile, elderly or infirm.

Or simply can't face standing on a hard wet pavement with no chair for hour, upon hour, however much we love the Queen. I wonder, is this really what she would have wanted?

Additional reporting by Isabelle Stanley.



by **JANE FRYER**

His Nibs strikes again!

This time it's a leaking pen in King Charles' bad books



Oh god, I've put the wrong date down.



I can't bear this bloody thing! What they do, every stinking time.

A write pain: A clip shows Charles realising his mistake, then complaining about the leaking pen yesterday

AFTER an awkward interaction with an obstructive pen tray on Saturday, he might have hoped to turn over a new leaf.

But King Charles was again seen venting his frustration over a fountain pen yesterday – complaining they leak ‘every stinking time’ while signing a visitors’ book.

The King was at Royal Hillsborough Castle near Belfast ahead of a service of reflection at St Anne’s Cathedral. While signing a book, the new monarch first exclaimed ‘Oh God, I’ve put the wrong date down!’, before passing the pen to Camilla,

By **Isaan Khan**

the Queen Consort, as she pointed out he had got the date wrong earlier in the day too.

As he stood, Charles looked down at his finger which had apparently been stained with ink from the fountain pen. ‘Oh God, I hate this,’ he declared.

Camilla was then caught on camera saying: ‘Oh look, it’s going everywhere, hang on,’ while holding the pen out in her right hand.

The loathed pen was then taken away by an aide while she

appeared to wipe her fingers with her other hand.

In the background, the King can be heard saying: ‘I can’t bear this bloody thing! [It’s] what they do, every stinking time,’ wiping his fingers with a paper handkerchief.

Camilla then used a different pen to sign the book.

It follows Charles’s animated scenes at St James’s Palace on Saturday, when he irritably motioned to an aide to move a pen box – which was getting in the way – from his desk as he went to sign the historic Proclamation.



Grimace: Asking for the pen box to be moved on Saturday

Blundering Euro football chiefs ban national anthem

EUROPEAN football’s governing body has banned British football clubs from playing the national anthem before matches in honour of the Queen.

Manchester City, Chelsea and Rangers all asked for permission to play God Save The King before kick-off in their home Champions League clashes tonight.

But Uefa refused, claiming it had to ensure a ‘subdued atmosphere’ without any ‘celebratory activities’ before games.

Tory MPs reacted furiously, accusing Uefa of being ‘completely unreasonable’.

Last night, sources said sports minister Nigel Huddleston was very concerned about the decision.

It is understood that Rangers intend to defy the ban and will

By **Mike Keegan** and **Martin Beckford**

play the anthem before their match against Napoli tonight, following a period of silence. If English clubs do likewise, the consequences could include a fine.

Fans may well decide to sing God Save the King despite the ban.

‘If they can get it wrong, they will’

Chelsea are closely associated with the Chelsea Pensioners, based at the Royal Hospital Chelsea, in west London, which was founded by King Charles II in 1682.

Rangers have long-established links to the royals. Former manager and Sportsmail columnist Graeme Souness wrote this week

of how he had a portrait of the Queen installed in the home dressing room shortly after taking over at the club.

Manchester City are understood to have been keen to give their supporters the opportunity to pay their respects to the Queen by singing the anthem.

Greg Hands, the Tory MP for Chelsea and Fulham, said last night: ‘This behaviour by Uefa is completely unreasonable. The teams and their supporters would welcome the chance to celebrate our new monarch. In Britain the monarch is above politics.’

Former culture secretary and fellow Chelsea fan David Mellor said: ‘If Uefa can get it wrong, they will. How can there be any good reason to ban the national anthem?’

He added that the official ban would not stop fans from singing the anthem.

Ex-sports minister Tracey

Crouch said: ‘Uefa’s president last week expressed his sincere condolences at the Queen’s death, calling her one of the world’s most respected figures. This week they are banning the opportunity for fans to belt out the anthem in recognition of her passing.’

Teams playing in English Football League matches last night played the anthem.

And just hours after the Queen’s death was confirmed on Thursday last week, West Ham fans sang it during their Conference League victory over Romanians FCSB.

Uefa confirmed that it has received multiple requests from clubs to play God Save The King.

It has also banned player mascots and banner-waving in the

centre circle. But there can be a minute’s silence and black armbands worn if requested.

A Uefa spokesman said: ‘There will be no anthems played... on the basis of maintaining a consistent pre-match ceremony with a subdued atmosphere...’

Uefa has previously come under fire for its pitiful record of punishing racist behaviour while issuing heavier sanctions for more trivial matters.

For example, in 2012, Porto were fined £16,700 for their fans’ racist abuse of Mario Balotelli during a clash with Manchester City – but City were fined £25,000 just for being late on to the pitch for the second half of a game against Sporting Lisbon.

Uefa’s own goal

BACK PAGE

I'll follow Queen's

New King's vow to carry on his mother's work as crowds cheer him in Ulster

From **Andy Jehring** in Belfast

KING Charles yesterday vowed to follow the Queen's 'shining example' as he received a fond welcome on a visit to Northern Ireland.

Charles pledged to uphold 'the welfare of all the inhabitants' of the province after crowds of flag-waving supporters cheered his arrival.

In a speech to Unionist and Republican leaders, he revealed that his mother 'never ceased to pray for the best of times' for Ulster. Referring to the IRA's assassination of his great uncle, Lord Mountbatten, in Ireland in 1979, he added that his family had endured 'sorrows'.

But in a sign of the progress towards peace in recent years, leaders of Sinn Féin paid tribute to the Queen's legacy and joined Unionists in prayers.

Thousands of wellwishers had lined the streets from dawn to get a glimpse of the first time a British king had visited Northern Ireland since George VI in 1945.

Charles and consort Camilla landed at Belfast City Airport shortly before midday.

They were driven past miles of supporters on the streets leading to Hillsborough Castle in County Down, where a sea of floral tributes to the Queen had been laid. Deafening cries of 'God Save The King!' rang out as Charles got out of the royal car with Camilla, both dressed in black. They spoke to wellwishers who had gathered with flowers and waved Union flags outside the castle.

Schoolchildren handed him tributes and pictures while Camilla received bouquets.

Charles asked ten-year-olds Ella Smith and Lucas Watt: 'Are you enjoying your day off school?' as they presented him with a box of chocolates. Sinn Féin vice-president Michelle O'Neill was seen chatting to the Queen Consort for several minutes.

A 21-gun salute was fired as Charles walked through the state entrance to view an exhibition of

'Momentous changes'

pictures of his mother's visits to Ulster throughout her reign. He then had a private audience with Northern Ireland Secretary Chris Heaton-Harris before meeting leaders of the main political parties.

The speaker of the Stormont Assembly, Alex Maskey, read out a message of condolence on behalf of the people of Northern Ireland before the King gave his response.

Mr Maskey said the Queen had not been 'a distant observer' amid the transformation of the province and improved relationships among its citizens.

He said she had 'demonstrated how individual acts of positive leadership can help break down

barriers and encourage reconciliation'. Charles said his mother 'saw Northern Ireland pass through momentous and historic changes'. He added: 'Through all those years, she never ceased to pray for the best of times for this place and for its people, whose stories she knew, whose sorrows our family had felt, and for whom she had a great affection and regard.'

'My mother felt deeply, I know, the significance of the role she herself played in bringing together those whom history had separated, and in extending a hand to make possible the healing of long-held hurts. At the very beginning of her

life of service, the Queen made a pledge to dedicate herself to her country and her people and to maintain the principles of constitutional government. This promise she kept with steadfast faith.'

'Now, with that shining example before me, and with God's help, I take up my new duties resolved to seek the welfare of all the inhabitants of Northern Ireland.'

Earlier, Mrs O'Neill had told the King that the Queen's 'life and legacy will be fondly remembered by those of a British identity here'.

She added: 'She led by example in advancing peace and reconciliation and the building of relation-

ships with those of us who are Irish, and who share a different political allegiance and aspirations to herself and her Government.'

'I hope this continues now you are King and the British-Irish relationship strengthens and evolves as one era ends and a new one begins in these changing times.'

The King also discussed the Northern Ireland Protocol with Democratic Unionist Party leader Jeffrey Donaldson. Charles and Camilla then travelled to St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast where they were greeted by more cheers of 'God Save The King' before a service of reflection for the life of

Bouquets of love: King Charles and Camilla admire floral tributes outside Hillsborough Castle



Welcome: Sinn Féin vice-president Michelle O'Neill shakes hands with Camilla and Charles yesterday



the Queen. PM Liz Truss sat next to Irish leader Micheal Martin in the congregation of 800 and the pair were seen chatting at length before the service got under way.

Afterwards, Charles shook hands with Irish president Michael D Higgins - his first meeting with a head of state as King.

The King and Queen Consort then spoke to some of the supporters who had gathered to see them. A group of women burst into a spontaneous rendition of the national anthem which Charles told them was 'beautiful'.

Charity worker Irene Robinson, 75, told him: 'You'll be a great King!' Mrs Robinson had been invited along with her daughter, Elaine, 52, as recognition of their work running a women's centre in Lisburn. After meeting Charles, Noah Workman, nine, said: 'He's an amazing person - so kind. He's going to be one of the greatest kings that have ever been.'

Others passed on their condolences, with Katie Lee, 36, of Belfast, saying: 'I just wanted to let him know we felt sorry for his loss. It was absolutely brilliant to meet the King.' Charles and Camilla later flew back to England.

Comment - Page 26

shining example



Picture: NIAL CARSON/PA WIRE

Anger as minister says King wants border deal

IRELAND'S foreign minister has sparked controversy after hinting that King Charles III, also has a deep affection for Ireland... I expect that that affection won't change now that he is King.

Simon Coveney said Brexit and the Northern Ireland Protocol had caused unwelcome 'tension' between Britain and Ireland.

And he said that he expected the new monarch would want to 'protect and strengthen the relationship' between the two countries.

But Tory MPs accused the politician of making a 'grave error' by trying to 'put words into the mouth' of the UK's head of state.

Mr Coveney told BBC Radio 4's Today programme yesterday: 'You don't have to be a politician to impact on a nation.'

'I think that Queen Elizabeth II's

impact on Ireland – particularly since 2011 – was a hugely positive one and her son, now King Charles III, also has a deep affection for Ireland... I expect that that affection won't change now that he is King.'

Mr Coveney added: 'Obviously his role has changed. I've spoken to him about this many times.'

'Putting words in his mouth'

I expect that he will want to see his role being part of protecting and building and strengthening the relationship between Britain and Ireland.'

However, his comments sparked a backlash, with ex-Tory leader Sir

Iain Duncan Smith urging listeners to 'ignore' the remarks.

He said: 'It is unusual for a spokesman for another country to try and put words into the mouth of the head of state of the UK.'

'I think at this particular time it is a grave error to make any such suggestion at this time, given the period of mourning and the death of Her Majesty'

Former Brexit minister David Jones said: 'I am sure that the King wishes to see a strong relationship between Britain and Ireland, as does everyone.'

'However, I would be very surprised if he gave any indication at all that he wants to see a deal over the protocol... I have no doubt that he is happy to leave the politics to the politicians.'

Top dog! Charles greeted by corgi



The King is delighted to spot a corgi held by a well-wisher during his walkabout outside Hillsborough Castle yesterday



Charles smiles broadly as he strokes the dog named Connie, whose breed was famously loved by his late mother



Connie appears to pant with excitement at receiving royal attention as the crowds around her looked on affectionately

Now it's England's turn to honour Queen

By Inderdeep Bains
Deputy Chief Reporter

THE Queen's coffin will be taken by a horse-drawn gun carriage from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall this afternoon to lie in state.

The poignant procession along The Mall and through Whitehall will be London's first big ceremonial event marking her death.

It will be led by King Charles and his two sons, the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Sussex. They will walk behind the Queen's coffin along with the Duke of York, the Princess Royal and the Earl of Wessex.

Princess Anne's son Peter Phillips and her husband Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence will also walk in the procession, as will the Duke of Gloucester and the Earl of Snowdon.

The Queen Consort, the Princess of Wales, the Countess of Wessex and the Duchess of Sussex will travel by car.

The Queen's coffin was returned to England after being flown in from Edinburgh yesterday evening and taken to Buckingham Palace, her home for 70 years.

At 2.22pm today, it will be borne on a gun carriage of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery to Westminster Hall. It is here where the coffin, adorned with the Imperial State Crown, will lie in state before the funeral on Monday.

The coffin will be pulled by seven black horses. For 38 minutes, the gun carriage will proceed at a stately pace along the mile-long route before reaching its destination at 3pm.

Sergeant Tom Jenks, from the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, will be leading the gun carriage that pulls the coffin with the 'number one horse' - Cassius, an 18-year-old who participated in Margaret

'Troubled relationship'

Thatcher's funeral. Sgt Jenks said the horses have undergone special training.

'They get exposure to loud noises, crowds, flags, flowers, people sobbing, even to the point of banging lots of drums and making aggressive noises,' he said.

A rehearsal was held in the early hours of yesterday morning with thousands of soldiers gathering at Buckingham Palace under the cover of darkness.

Once the coffin is received at Westminster Hall, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend Justin Welby, will conduct a short service assisted by the Very Reverend Dr David Hoyle, Dean of Westminster.

The Queen's closed coffin will then rest on a catafalque in the hall with the Orb and Sceptre placed on top. At 5pm Westminster Hall opens for the public to file past the coffin.

William and Harry put on a united front with their wives during a walkabout on Saturday. The brothers have a well-documented troubled relationship but the death of their grandmother saw them unexpectedly come together when they viewed floral tributes left to the Queen at Windsor Castle.

The last time Charles and his two sons were all seen together in public was at the service of thanksgiving for the Queen in St Paul's Cathedral during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June.



HER JOURNEY FROM THE

TODAY: DAY ONE OF QUEEN LYING IN STATE

■ **2.22pm** Coffin is borne by gun carriage of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery from Buckingham Palace to the Palace of Westminster.

■ Route takes in Queen's Gardens, The Mall, Horse Guards Parade and Horse Guards Arch, Whitehall, Parliament Street, Parliament Square and New Palace Yard.

■ The King and senior royals follow the gun carriage on foot. They are followed by senior staff of both the Queen's and the King's Households, and then close personal staff.

■ Procession walks in silence without music.

■ Guards of honour from all three services are positioned along the route. The King's Life Guard give a royal salute as coffin passes through Horse Guards Arch. Outside Buckingham Palace, the King's Guard welcomes the coffin.

■ Throughout the procession, minute guns will be fired at Hyde Park by the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, and Big Ben will toll.

■ **3pm** Coffin arrives at North Door of Westminster Hall, and is carried to the catafalque in Westminster Hall by a bearer party from the Queen's Company, 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards.

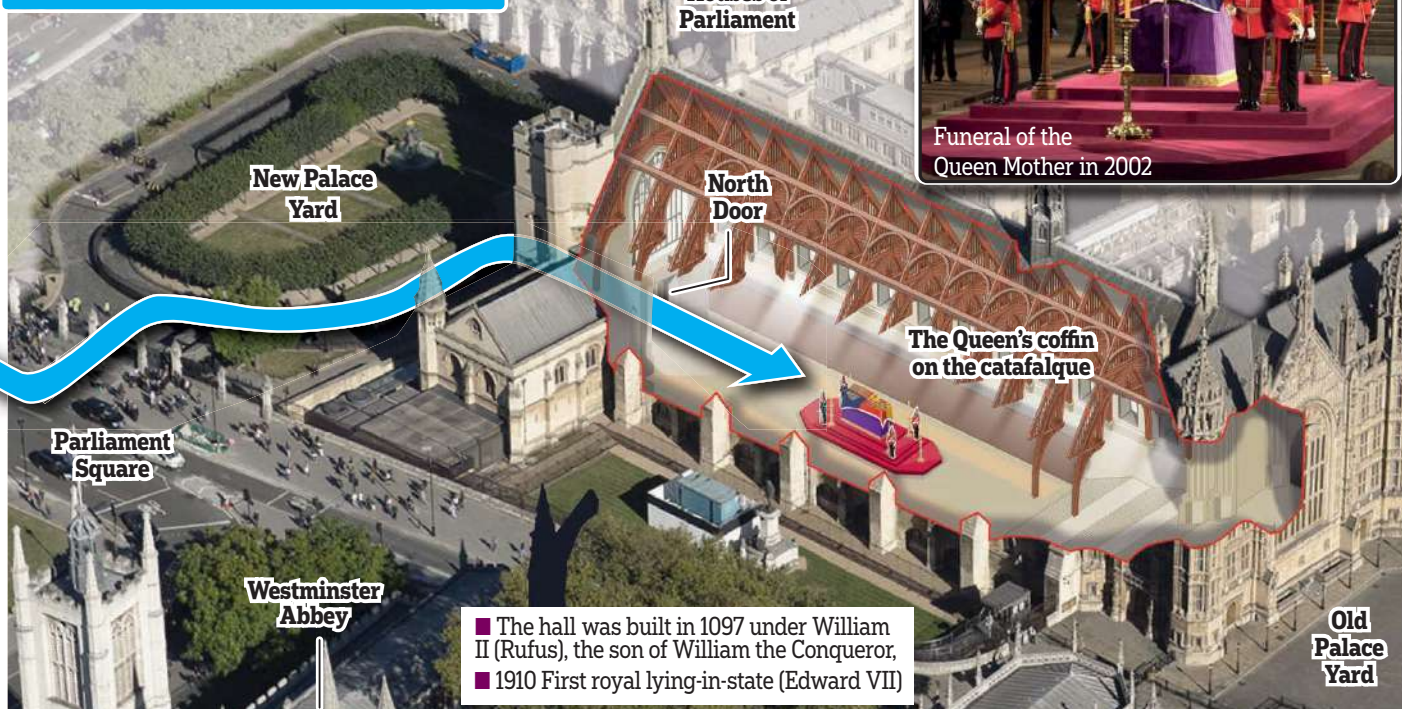
■ Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby conducts a short service.

■ **5pm** Westminster Hall opens for public to file past coffin at start of four-and-a-half days of Queen lying in state.

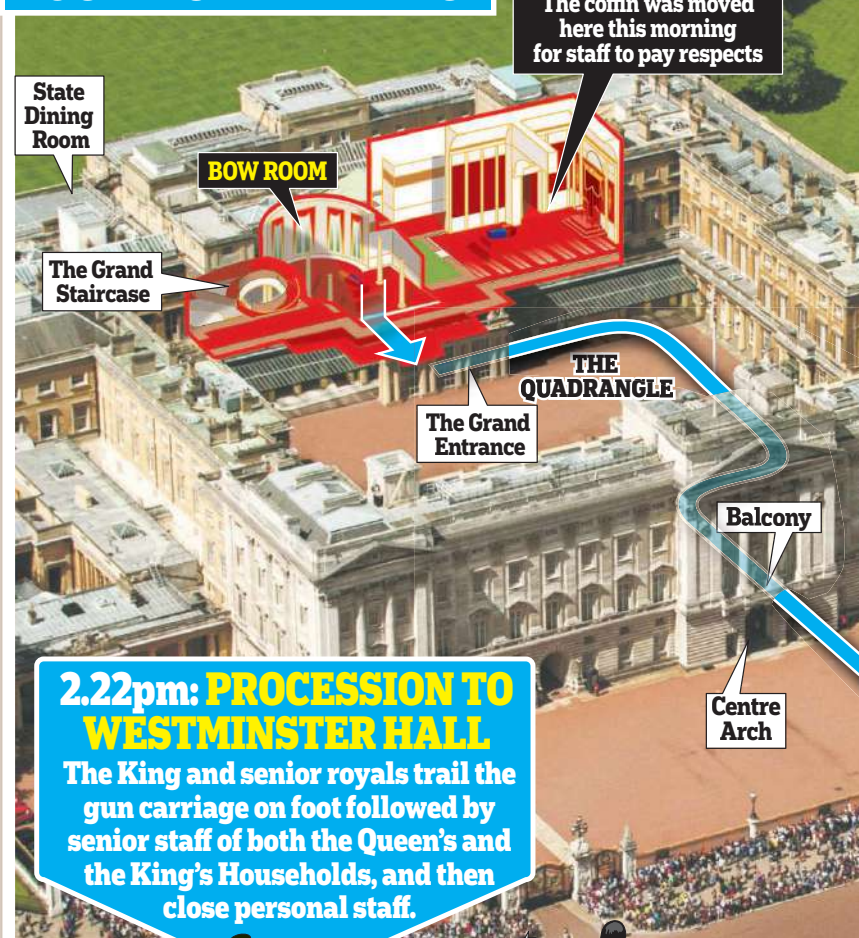
■ Round-the-clock vigil is mounted around the catafalque by officers of the Household Division, the King's Body Guards of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, the King's Body Guard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers and the King's Body Guard the Yeomen of the Guard.

■ It will be open 24 hours a day until it closes at 6.30am on Monday September 19.

WESTMINSTER HALL



BUCKINGHAM PALACE



THRONE ROOM:
The coffin was moved here this morning for staff to pay respects

2.22pm: PROCESSION TO WESTMINSTER HALL

The King and senior royals trail the gun carriage on foot followed by senior staff of both the Queen's and the King's Households, and then close personal staff.



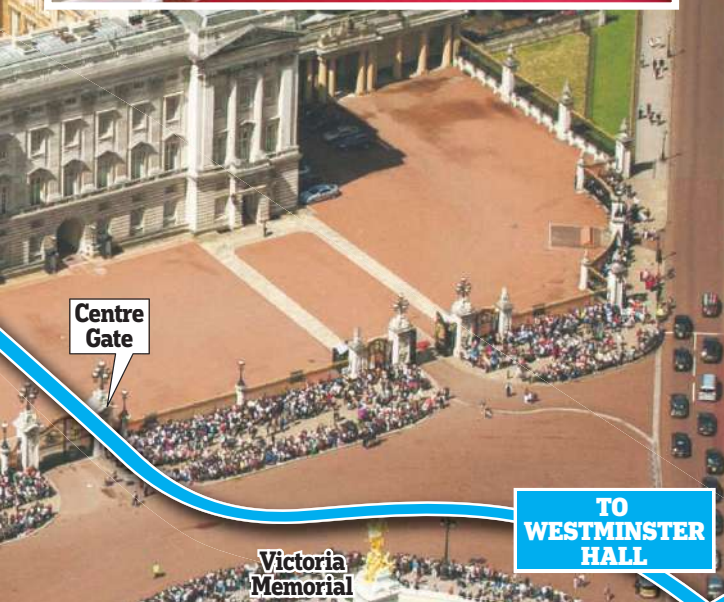
Funeral of the Queen Mother in 2002

■ The hall was built in 1097 under William II (Rufus), the son of William the Conqueror,
■ 1910 First royal lying-in-state (Edward VII)

PALACE TO THE ANCIENT HALL



THRONE ROOM



Centre Gate

Victoria Memorial

TO WESTMINSTER HALL

HOW TO VIEW THE PROCESSION

■ Viewing areas along the route will open at 11am today, if these areas are full, people will be directed to screens in Hyde Park.

DO NOT BRING

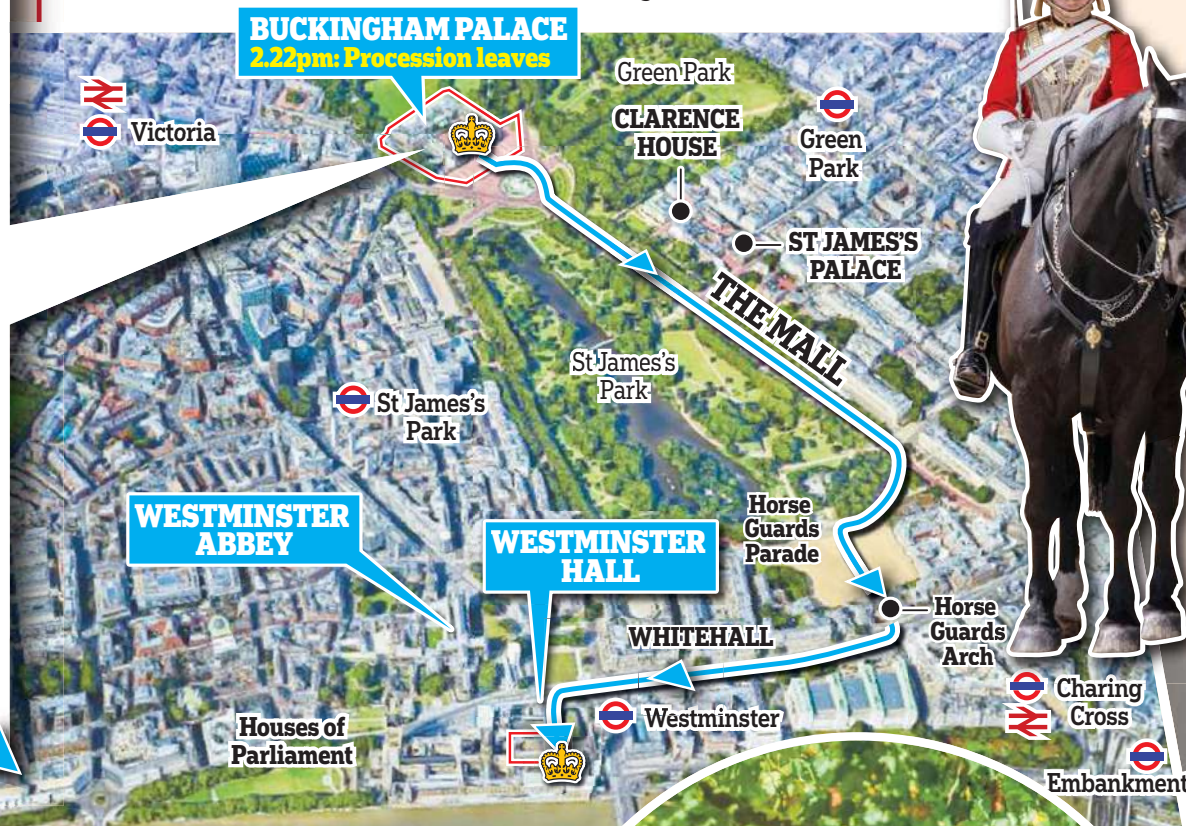
■ Tents, gazebos or camping equipment. Anyone who attempts to camp during the national mourning period could be asked to move on. Unattended tents, bags or

other items will be removed and may be destroyed.

■ Barbecues and equipment for fires.

■ Alcohol. You should not bring alcohol or drinking glasses into the viewing areas or screening site.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
2.22pm: Procession leaves



WESTMINSTER ABBEY

WESTMINSTER HALL

WHITEHALL

Westminster

Houses of Parliament

Green Park

CLARENCE HOUSE

Green Park

ST JAMES'S PALACE

St James's Park

THE MALL

Horse Guards Parade

Horse Guards Arch

Charing Cross

Embankment



The King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery

LYING IN STATE QUEUE ROUTE

■ Public queue expected to stretch five miles - and take up to 30 hours to reach front.

■ Once people have passed through Albert Embankment they will be directed across Lambeth Bridge, into Victoria Tower Gardens and through airport-style security before entering the Palace of Westminster.

■ There are strict bag restrictions in place. Camping chairs, mobile phones, food and drink banned in Westminster Hall, with public asked to observe silence as they file past Her Majesty's closed coffin.



During the procession minute guns will be fired at Hyde Park

IN THE QUEUE

■ Extra welfare facilities in place will include toilets and water fountains at various locations along the route.

■ Local organisations including Southbank Centre, National Theatre, BFI Southbank and Shakespeare's Globe will be opening their doors for extended hours to provide refreshments and comfort breaks to queuers around the clock.

■ The BFI will have an outdoor screen showing archive footage of The Queen and Her reign.

■ Cafes and other local businesses are also expected to open for extended periods alongside welfare centres to provide refreshments for those in the queue.

■ St John Ambulance will be stationed along the route to provide first aid if required.



For the latest information on the ceremonial events to mark the Queen's death, visit gov.uk

KEY:

Toilets

Accessible toilets

First aid

Water fountain

Bag drop

End of queue (at maximum capacity)

Half-mile



Early start: The column of troops passes Big Ben and Parliament just after 5am



Dress rehearsal: A coffin is placed on the gun carriage as part of the exercise



Morning music: A band takes part in the practice procession from the Palace



By Tom Witherow

BUCKINGHAM Palace will block Russia and Belarus from attending the Queen's funeral because of the war in Ukraine – while Australia will get a dozen invitations as part of an anti-republican charm offensive.

The leader of Myanmar will also be excluded following the coup by the country's military chiefs last year.

Iran will be represented only by its ambassador, but other strongman leaders including Turkey's Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Brazilian president Jair Bolsonaro will be among 500 dignitaries from around the world heading to London to pay their respects.

Invitations were sent over the weekend to the heads of state of nations with diplomatic relations with the UK, plus one guest. But Russian president Vladimir Putin, his Belarusian counterpart Alexander Lukashenko and Myanmar's military ruler General Min Aung Hlaing won't be among the 2,000-

Funeral snub to

And no invitation for Belarus and Myanmar... but Australia gets 12

strong congregation at Westminster Abbey. Whitehall sources described Monday's funeral as 'the biggest international event we have hosted in decades', and compared the logistical task to organising 'hundreds of state visits' within a matter of days.

The event will be used by the Palace to launch a charm offensive in Australia in a bid to curb rising republican sentiment

following Her Majesty's death. Ten 'ordinary' Australians will travel to the ceremony with prime minister Anthony Albanese and governor-general David Hurley, a move which has made headlines there.

In 1999, Australians voted to keep the Queen as their head of state by a margin of 55 to 45 per cent. But within hours of her death on Thursday, Australian Greens

leader Adam Bandt said it was time to 'move forward' and become a republic.

Mr Albanese has said previously the country needs an Australian head of state. But he has now said he will not hold a referendum during his first term – due to end by 2025 – as a mark of respect, sparking a public relations war to win the hearts of the Australian people.

Antigua and Barbuda prime minister Gaston Browne has already announced plans to hold a referendum on becoming a republic within the next three years.

No official guest list for the funeral has yet been published, but many world leaders have confirmed their attendance.

US President Joe Biden was among the first, followed by New Zealand prime minis-

Not yet dawn, and outside the Palace rehearsals begin



HUNDREDS of soldiers took part in pre-dawn dress rehearsals in central London yesterday.

Troops escorted a gun carriage to prepare for today's procession taking the Queen's coffin from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall.

The practice cortege began its way along The Mall, Whitehall, Parliament Square and New Palace Yard shortly after 4am. Horses taking part in ceremonies

By **Mark Nicol** Defence Editor

marking the Queen's death have had special training to not be panicked by crowds. Sergeant Tom Jenks of the King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, said: 'Soldiers have been throwing flags and tossing bouquets of flowers in their path, as mourners might.'

'We've got to cry too, it's all part of the horses' special

preparations.' Major General Chris Ghika, Household Division commander, is responsible for ceremonies around the Queen's funeral.

He said: 'This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to pay tribute to the Queen and the eyes of the world will be upon us. I'm not nervous though... I expect everyone to deliver a spectacular performance.' The procession is due to leave the Palace today at 2.22pm.

Russia over Ukraine

ter Jacinda Ardern and her Canadian and Australian counterparts, Justin Trudeau and Mr Albanese. Other presidents to have confirmed their attendance are France's Emmanuel Macron, Germany's Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Italy's Sergio Mattarella, along with the European Commission's Ursula von der Leyen.

King Felipe of Spain and his wife, Queen Letizia, are among the European royals who will attend. Emperor Naruhito of Japan is also expected, in what would be his first overseas trip since ascending the throne in 2019. But it is not thought that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky will attend.

Downing Street refused to comment on reports that world leaders will be bussed to Westminster Abbey.

WHO'S COMING

- Joe Biden and Jill Biden, President and first lady of the United States
- Michael D Higgins, President of Ireland
- Micheal Martin, Taoiseach (PM) of Ireland
- Michelle O'Neill, president of Sinn Féin
- Jacinda Ardern, PM of New Zealand
- Anthony Albanese, Australian PM
- Justin Trudeau, Canadian PM

■ Charles Michel, President of the European Council

■ Frank-Walter Steinmeier, President of Germany

■ Sergio Mattarella, President of Italy

■ Jair Bolsonaro, President of Brazil

■ Mohammad Shtayyeh, Palestinian PM

■ Also attending will be the Presidents of Austria, Lithuania, Poland, Latvia, Finland, Hungary, Trinidad and Tobago, Sri Lanka and South Korea

FOREIGN ROYALS

- King Philip and Queen Mathilde of Belgium
- King Felipe VI and Queen Letizia of Spain
- Juan Carlos I, former King of Spain, and his wife Sofia
- Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary
- King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden
- King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands



Charged: The man who heckled Andrew



Sign of the times: Anti-royalists in Edinburgh



Not my King: A protester by Westminster Hall



Free speech: At Buckingham Palace

Police 'overzealous' in arresting and silencing protesters

By **Rebecca Camber**
Crime and Security Editor

POLICE have been 'overzealous' in their handling of anti-monarchy protests following the Queen's death, a former counter-terror chief said yesterday.

Nick Aldworth, who was the national co-ordinator for UK counter-terrorism policing until 2019, accused some officers of showing 'inappropriate overprotectiveness towards the dignity of the event' after a number of arrests were made.

As civil liberty groups accused 'heavy-handed' officers of an 'affront to democracy', he claimed the Queen herself would not have wanted 'interference with legitimate protest'.

Mr Aldworth spoke out after a video went viral showing barrister Paul Powlesland being asked for his details by an officer after holding up a blank piece of paper in Parliament Square.

Mr Powlesland, a tenant at Garden Court Chambers who specialises in protest rights among other things, claimed he had been threatened with arrest under the Public Order Act if he wrote 'not my king' on the paper. He wrote on Twitter: '[An officer] confirmed that if I wrote "not my king" on it, he would arrest me under the Public Order Act because someone might be offended.'

'A period of quiet mourning for the Queen is fine, but using that period to cement Charles's acces-



'I wasn't heckling Prince Andrew - I was shouting at the football!'

sion as King and cracking down on any dissent to the accession as disrespectful is outrageous.'

A woman brandishing signs saying 'Abolish the Monarchy' and 'Not My King' outside Parliament as King Charles addressed MPs was also escorted away from gates by officers.

And a 22-year-old man has been charged with breaching the peace for heckling Prince Andrew, shouting: 'You're a sick old man' as he was walking behind the Queen's coffin on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh.

Furious mourners yanked the protester backwards, dragging him to the ground and pushing

him out of the crowd before he was led away by police, insisting: 'I've done nothing wrong.'

In another unrelated incident, a 45-year-old man was arrested in Oxford on Sunday after he shouted 'Who elected him?' during a public proclamation of King Charles III's accession. He was later de-arrested.

A 22-year-old woman has also been charged in connection with a breach of the peace after holding a sign that said 'F*** imperialism, abolish monarchy' during the Accession Proclamation for the King outside St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.

It comes as activists gathered outside St Giles' yesterday to

'Not what the Queen would've wanted'

protest against the recent arrests. Protester Douglas Rogers, 27, said: 'We live in a free society and there's someone spending ten hours in a police station being treated as a criminal for sharing an opinion. We have to be able to disagree with each other, as long as it's in a peaceful way.'

Mr Aldworth said of the recent arrests: 'There was an inappropriate overprotectiveness towards the dignity of the event. And I think the Met has come out very strongly and said no, that's not right. The nature of

cops and the military is we all swear an oath of allegiance and I think sometimes we forget that part of allegiance is upholding what the Crown would want.'

'I met the Queen on countless occasions across my career and the one thing I'm pretty certain about was that she was an advocate of democracy and she would not want that level of disruption and interference with legitimate protest. They didn't act appropriately, it's overzealous.'

Silkie Carlo, director of Big Brother Watch, said: 'Police officers have a duty to protect people's right to protest as much as they have a duty to facilitate people's right to express support, sorrow, or pay their respects.'

The 1986 Public Order Law gives police powers of arrest for people judged to be guilty of causing 'harassment, alarm or distress' through 'threatening words or behaviour, or disorderly behaviour' including by holding up signs. Experts say it can also be necessary for police to intervene for the safety of protesters if the crowd turns against them.

The National Police Chiefs' Council said it had issued guidance to forces on protests, saying officers must balance the rights of demonstrators against those who wish to grieve and reflect.

Deputy Assistant Commissioner Stuart Cundy said: 'Officers will approach and speak to people - please don't be alarmed. They may also ask people to move if they are blocking access. I encourage everyone to display patience and communicate with each other.'

Comment - Page 26

Fresh tax row as activists call for King to pay £148m on inheritance

By **Tom Witherow**

KING Charles should pay inheritance tax on his late mother's estate, campaigners said yesterday.

Under rules signed in 1993, the Queen agreed to pay income and capital gains tax - but 'sovereign-to-sovereign bequests' are exempt from inheritance tax.

Her late Majesty's personal wealth, which included property, private investments and racehorses, was estimated to be around £370million. This would mean the King would be liable for an inheritance tax bill - usually charged at 40 per cent above a £325,000 threshold - of £148million.

Yesterday some members of the public agreed with tax campaigners that it was a 'joke' that ordinary, middle-class families are forced to pay inheritance tax on their wealth while the King is exempt.

However, others said it was wrong for the Royal Family's wealth to be whittled away with each generation.

In 2016 the Duke of Westminster, Hugh Grosvenor, inherited £9billion almost tax free because his estate was held in trust.

The Royal Family's wealth has been estimated to be around £24billion, although this includes property such as Buckingham Palace, which only belongs to the

'It's a joke that he's exempt'

monarch in an official capacity. The Queen's death has sparked fresh debate about the tax advantages granted to the sovereign's private wealth. Supporters of the 1993 deal argue it is important the monarch has 'sufficient private resources'.

But Robert Palmer, from Tax Justice UK, said: 'I don't think it's fair that the King isn't going to be paying inheritance tax on the private fortune he's going to inherit from his mother.'

'It's important to make a distinction between money that is held by the Crown and the sovereign, like Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle - that is a different question. But the King is also inheriting a big chunk of money in racehorses, property and private investments.'

Richard Murphy, a tax campaigner and professor of accountancy at Sheffield University, said: 'Why should there be one rule for the monarch and another for everyone else? Shouldn't a constitutional monarch be our equal before the law?'

There was broad agreement among callers to LBC radio station yesterday. A caller from Liverpool said: 'I think it's a joke to say the Royal Family would have very little left after inheritance tax.'

Strictly launch show delayed

THE BBC has announced it is delaying the launch of this year's Strictly Come Dancing out of respect for the Queen.

The pre-recorded ballroom show was scheduled to kick off on Saturday night, with viewers being introduced to this year's pairings.

But the launch will now be broadcast on September 23 with the first live show taking place the following night.

Celebrity contestants include former footballer Tony Adams, actress Kym Marsh, TV presenter Helen Skelton and five-time Paralympic champion Ellie Simmonds.

The Celebrity Masterchef final has also been shuffled in the schedules following the Queen's death. It will now air on September 22, a week later than planned.

Explosive Harry memoir 'will still be coming out as planned'

By **Alison Boshoff**
Chief Showbusiness Writer

PRINCE Harry's autobiography is set to be published as originally planned this November despite the death of the Queen, a royal author has claimed.

Neither the publisher nor the duke have confirmed their intentions.

Writer Tom Bower, whose biography of the prince's wife Meghan was published earlier this year, said the book would be printed at Clays in Bungay, Suffolk, under conditions of great secrecy, with staff being checked on their way out for copies.

He added: 'The book is a time-bomb which Charles and William wanted to defuse. Harry did not think that he would be in the UK when the Queen died and the circumstances are different to how they all envisaged it.'

'That said I hear that it is being printed at Clays. It will take weeks to print and then weeks to distribute it globally.'

A source close to the duke disputed the accuracy of Bower's account, although they did not comment specifically on the planned publication date.

Representatives of the publishers, Penguin Random House, did not respond to requests for comment.

Pulitzer prize-winning journalist and novelist JR Moehringer has

Duke: Wearing a suit doesn't erase a decade in the Army

THE move to ban Prince Harry from wearing his military uniform at ceremonial events honouring the Queen cannot efface his 'decade of military service', his team has stated.

The Duke of Sussex cannot wear military attire at Queen Elizabeth II's state funeral on Monday or at the public events leading up to it as he is not a working royal.

In a statement released ahead of today's procession through the capital, in which he will join his father the King behind the coffin, his press secretary confirmed he will not don his uniform.

The statement added: 'Prince Harry... will wear a morning suit throughout the events honouring his grandmother. His decade of

military service is not determined by the uniform he wears and we respectfully ask that focus remain on the life and legacy of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.'

Prince Harry spent ten years in the Army, rising to the rank of captain and undertaking two tours of Afghanistan. But he was stripped of his honorary military titles in 2020 after he and his wife Meghan announced they were stepping down as senior working royals and moving abroad.

His uncle Prince Andrew is the only other royal banned from wearing military uniform at the ceremonial events and funeral.

ghost-written the memoir, whose title has yet to be revealed.

Harry said when the book was announced last year: 'I'm writing this not as the prince I was born but as the man I have become.'

'I've worn many hats over the years, both literally and figuratively, and my hope is that in telling my story – the highs and lows, the mistakes, the lessons learned – I can help show that no matter

where we come from, we have more in common than we think.'

Harry's memoir is said to be of deep concern to the royal household, which is not expected to see the manuscript before it is printed.

Bower, the author of *Revenge: Meghan, Harry and the War between the Windsors*, told GB News: 'I think they've convinced themselves they're in the right and they want to get their own back.'



In mourning: Harry and Meghan view tributes at Windsor Castle

Palace, Met and Government stonewalled me over contacting Andrew, says US prosecutor



Sparring: The Duke of York

THE former top prosecutor in New York who pursued Prince Andrew over his links to paedophile Jeffrey Epstein has accused the British establishment of 'protecting' the duke.

In a bombshell memoir published just days before the Queen's funeral, Geoffrey Berman said he got 'absolutely nowhere' with his efforts to get her second son to agree to an interview as part of the wide-ranging Epstein investigation.

Mr Berman, the former US Attorney for the Southern District of New York, writes that despite Andrew's public assertion he was 'willing to help any appropriate law enforcement agency', Buckingham Palace was 'not helpful' and Andrew's lawyers gave him the 'runaround'.

He claims Scotland Yard were of no use when he formally requested assistance even though they were usually cooperative.

Earlier this year, the Duke of York paid a multi-million pound settlement to Virginia Roberts, who sued the prince over claims he slept with her three times when she was 17.

The out-of-court agreement accepted no lia-

From **Daniel Bates**
in New York

bility and Andrew, who met Epstein through the financier's madam, Ghislaine Maxwell, has always strongly rejected claims of wrongdoing.

But the sordid saga saw him forced to retreat from public life and stripped of his military titles and royal patronages by the Queen.

Mr Berman was in office for over two years before, in June 2020, he was fired by Donald Trump, whose inner circle he had been investigating. The duke's sparring with the prosecutor began in November 2019 when Andrew said he would cooperate with law enforcement in a now infamous Newsnight interview.

But Mr Berman wrote that he became frustrated after, on the back of the public pledge, he asked his team to set up an interview with Andrew.

They spent 'two weeks just trying to find out who his lawyers were', Mr Berman says in *Holding the Line: Inside the Nation's Preeminent US Attorney's Office and its Battle with the Trump Justice Department*.

He writes: 'We tried calling Buckingham Pal-

ace and they were not helpful. We tried the Department of Justice attache and the State Department, no luck.

'When we finally got his lawyers, they had all these questions.'

He added: 'We kept answering, and all that led to further questions.' Mr Berman writes that it was an 'endless email exchange and it was clear we were getting the runaround'.

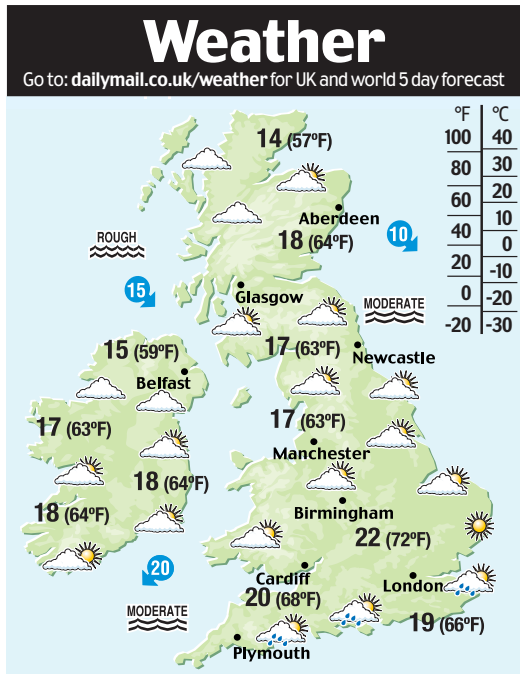
In January 2020 Mr Berman was asked at a press conference about Andrew's help in the investigation.

He said there had been 'zero cooperation'. Mr Berman's comments brought Andrew's lawyers 'to the table again'. He writes: 'But it was more of the same. Repetitive emails back and forth with no commitment.'

A war of words ensued and Andrew's lawyers accused Mr Berman of 'seeking publicity rather than accepting the assistance proffered' in a June 2020 statement.

Mr Berman writes: 'Prince Andrew clearly knew Epstein and Maxwell... We had a lot of questions for him and as of the day I was fired, those questions remained unanswered.'

Representatives for the duke declined to comment last night.



Summary: Mainly dry

UK TODAY: Mainly dry with periods of sunshine however there will be large areas of cloud. Rain across southern counties of England will slowly clear and there may be a few showers across Scotland. Max 23c.

Today's weather

	9am	12noon	3pm	6pm	9pm
London	15c	19c	22c	21c	17c
Plymouth	16c	18c	21c	19c	16c
Cardiff	16c	18c	20c	19c	16c
B'ham	12c	17c	19c	17c	14c
M'chester	11c	16c	17c	16c	14c
Newcastle	11c	15c	16c	15c	13c
Glasgow	13c	16c	17c	15c	12c
Aberdeen	12c	14c	15c	14c	12c
Belfast	13c	14c	16c	15c	13c

5 day forecast

	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
London	19c	17c	17c	17c	18c
Plymouth	19c	18c	17c	17c	18c
Cardiff	20c	18c	17c	17c	16c
B'ham	17c	15c	15c	15c	16c
M'chester	16c	15c	15c	14c	16c
Newcastle	16c	13c	14c	13c	15c
Glasgow	16c	15c	15c	15c	16c
Aberdeen	14c	12c	13c	12c	14c
Belfast	15c	14c	14c	15c	16c

Yesterday

	24 hours to 6pm	Sun (hrs)	Rain (ins)	Temp (min)	Temp (max)
Aberdeen	8.9	0.00	12	18	18
Aberporth	1.1	0.00	14	17	17
Belfast	5.9	0.00	12	17	17
Birmingham	8.4	0.01	10	20	20
Bournemouth	0.0	0.28	16	18	18
Bristol	4.5	0.11	14	16	16
Cardiff	0.0	0.16	15	16	16
Durham	10.7	0.00	9	20	20
Edinburgh	11.1	0.00	10	19	19
Glasgow	10.8	0.00	10	17	17
Hull	10.9	0.00	9	19	19
Ipswich	2.7	0.00	14	20	20
Leeds	10.7	0.01	9	21	21
Lincoln	8.4	0.02	10	18	18
London	0.0	0.06	16	19	19
Manchester	8.9	0.00	8	18	18
Southampton	0.9	0.16	17	18	18
St Andrews	11.4	0.00	10	20	20
Stornoway	0.1	0.02	11	14	14

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

Moon and Sun

MOON rises: 8.53pm, sets: 11.26am
Sun rises London: 6.33am, sets: 7.17pm
Manchester rises: 6.40am, sets: 7.27pm
HIGH TIDE London Bridge: 5.20pm
Liverpool: 2.27pm

Extremes (24 hrs to 6pm y'day)
Warmest: Jersey, Channel Islands, 23c (73f). Coldest: Topcliffe, North Yorkshire, 5c (41f). Wettest: Uphelin, Sutherland, 0.28ins. Sunniest: Morecambe, Lancashire, 12.2hrs.

Europe forecast

	today	c f	tomorrow	c f
Amsterdam	fair	20 68	fair	18 64
Brussels	rain	17 63	cloudy	18 64
Frankfurt	thunder	22 72	rain	19 66
Geneva	today	c f	tomorrow	c f
Lisbon	thunder	24 75	fair	25 77
Madrid	thunder	24 75	thunder	23 73
Paris	thunder	25 77	fair	22 72
Rome	fair	30 86	thunder	28 82

Around the world yesterday

	weather	c	f	weather	c	f	weather	c	f		
Algiers	Fair	36	97	Florence	Sunny	28	82	New Delhi	Fair	33	91
Amsterdam	Fair	20	68	Geneva	Fair	23	73	New York	Cloudy	24	75
Athens	Sunny	28	82	Gibraltar	Fair	24	75	Nice	Fair	25	77
Auckland	Fair	17	63	Guernsey	Cloudy	20	68	Oslo	Showers	12	54
Bahrain	Sunny	39	102	Helsinki	Cloudy	13	55	Palma	Sunny	33	91
Barcelona	Fair	31	88	Hong Kong	Fair	34	93	Paris	Cloudy	23	73
Basra	Sunny	45	113	Innsbruck	Fair	22	72	Perth	Thunder	17	63
Beijing	Fair	28	82	Istanbul	Showers	24	75	Prague	Drizzle	18	64
Beirut	Fair	30	86	Jersey	Cloudy	21	70	Rhodes	Sunny	29	84
Belfast	Cloudy	16	61	Larnaca	Sunny	32	90	Riga	Cloudy	12	54
Belgrade	Sunny	23	73	Las Palmas	Fair	26	79	Rome	Sunny	28	82
Berlin	Cloudy	19	66	Lisbon	Showers	22	72	Singapore	Fair	31	88
Biarritz	Cloudy	28	82	London	Cloudy	17	63	Stockholm	Showers	15	59
Brisbane	Sunny	22	72	Los Angeles	Fair	28	82	Strasbourg	Sunny	26	79
Brussels	Cloudy	23	73	Luxor	Sunny	37	99	Sydney	Showers	14	57
Bucharest	Fair	22	72	Madrid	Fair	21	70	Tangier	Fair	26	79
Budapest	Fair	21	70	Malaga	Fair	26	79	Tel Aviv	Sunny	31	88
Cairo	Sunny	31	88	Malta	Fair	29	84	Tenerife	Fair	27	81
Cape Town	Sunny	21	70	Melbourne	Cloudy	12	54	Tokyo	Fair	29	84
Casablanca	Cloudy	26	79	Mexico City	Cloudy	19	66	Toronto	Rain	22	72
Copenhagen	Cloudy	19	66	Miami	Fair	33	91	Tunis	Sunny	32	90
Corfu	Sunny	28	82	Milan	Sunny	26	79	Vancouver	Fair	21	70
Dubai	Fair	41	106	Montreal	Fair	26	79	Venice	Sunny	25	77
Dublin	Cloudy	15	59	Moscow	Cloudy	12	54	Vienna	Cloudy	21	70
Dubrovnik	Sunny	25	77	Mumbai	Thunder	27	81	Warsaw	Fair	18	64
Faro	Showers	23	73	Nairobi	Fair	23	73	Wellington	Cloudy	15	59

ELIZABETH R 1926-2022

Her Majesty rides off into the sunset...



Horse lover: The Queen as a young girl

FROM the double rainbow over Buckingham Palace when her death was announced to the heavens opening in symbolic downpour, the elements have appeared to reflect the nation's mood over the past several days.

Now one well-wisher has spotted a cloud figure that reminded them of Her late Majesty on one of her beloved horses.

The image, taken on Sunday in Wembley, north-west London, mirrors photos of a young Elizabeth riding in royal uniform. It follows photographs of several clouds that resembled the Queen in her signature hats.



Final furlough? A cloud resembling a figure on horseback spotted in London

Redundancy threats already for Charles' Clarence House staff

By Tom Witherow

DOZENS of staff working for the King at Clarence House could be sacked as his former household closes down.

Employees, some of whom had been with Charles for decades, claimed they were told their jobs were at risk while a church service was held for the Queen on Monday.

Clarence House, which has around 102 full-time members of staff, said 'some redundancies will be unavoidable'.

But a spokesman added that it will work to 'identify alternative roles for the greatest number of staff'.

Those who do lose their jobs – including workers in the finance office, the communications team and the household staff – will be given help finding a new job and an 'enhanced' redundancy payment.

The King and the Queen Consort are expected to move to Buckingham Palace where they will take on the Palace's team of around 490 staff.

Staff were said to be 'visibly shaken' after being told of the possible cuts at St Giles' Cathedral in Edinburgh.

A source told The Guardian: 'Everyone is absolutely livid, including private secretaries and the senior team. All the staff have been working late every night since Thursday, to be met with this.'

In a letter to staff, the King's top aide, Sir Clive Alderton, said: 'The change in

role for our principals will also mean change for our household.'

'The portfolio of work previously undertaken in this household supporting the former Prince of Wales's personal interests, former activities and household operations will no longer be carried out, and the household... at Clarence House will be closed down.'

'It is therefore expected that the need for the posts principally based at Clarence House, whose work supports these areas will no longer be needed. I appreciate that this is unsettling news and I wanted

'Posts are no longer needed'

to let you know of the support that is available at this point.'

The letter added that certain staff providing 'direct, close, personal support and advice' to the King and Queen Camilla will remain in post.

Final decisions will be taken after the statutory consultation period, which is expected to begin after the Queen's funeral next Monday.

Although the announcement has reportedly caused anger within the King's former household, sources said there was

no ill feeling towards Charles himself. One said: 'It's not directed against the King – who everyone loves at Clarence House or they wouldn't have been working there – but against the way it has been handled by the bean counters.'

'This is what happens when you have a change of reign. You can't keep two households going, especially when the work the King is going to be doing is so fundamentally difficult. But the timing and delivery is poor. The treasurers only look at it from a point of financial cost, not the human side of things.'

A Clarence House spokesman said: 'Following last week's accession, the operations of the household of the former Prince of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall have ceased and, as required by law, a consultation process has begun.'

'Our staff have given long and loyal service and, while some redundancies will be unavoidable, we are working urgently to identify alternative roles for the greatest number of staff.'

Charles employed the full-time equivalent of four chefs, two butlers, two chauffeurs, five housekeepers and three valets and dressers, according to the Clarence House website.

He had 12 staff managing his communications, two people in charge of his travel and 30 staff in the finance department. A further 31 worked as secretaries, researchers or equerries.

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Center Parcs U-turn over plan to shut on funeral day

Furious families had faced the prospect of being kicked out and then asked to come back 24 hours later to finish their holidays

By **Sean Poulter**
Consumer Affairs Editor

CENTER Parcs performed an embarrassing U-turn last night after an angry backlash from customers when it announced they would have to leave on the day of the Queen's funeral.

The firm had been set to order holidaymakers to depart from its five UK parks by 10am on Monday in plans to shut for 24 hours.

Guests part-way through seven-day holidays – which usually cost more than £1,000 for a family of four at this time of year – faced the prospect of being forced to spend the night elsewhere or go home early. Those due to arrive on Monday for

'No legal right to remove people'

shorter stays were being asked to begin their breaks a day later. However, last night the company said it had 'reviewed our position regarding the very small number of guests who are not due to depart on Monday and we will be allowing them to stay in our villages rather than having to leave and return on Tuesday.'

A spokesman said: 'The villages will still remain closed on Monday and we will be offering a discount for the lack of facilities available on that day.' When it made the earlier announcement that holidaymakers must leave, Center Parcs said the decision was a 'mark of respect' and it was taken 'to allow as many of our colleagues as possible to be part of this historic moment'.

It added: 'We hope our guests will understand our decision to support our Queen on her final journey.' Many people expressed their anger on the Facebook page for Center Parcs, which has sites in Bedfordshire, Suffolk, Wiltshire, Nottinghamshire and Cumbria.

Consultant Tracy Groome, 58, who lives near Manchester, had a seven-night booking at Elveden Forest, Suffolk, for a party of nine, including her husband and their family. The trip – due to begin on Friday – cost more than £2,500.

Mrs Groome said she had been looking forward to watching the Queen's funeral during her stay.

She said: 'Thanks to Center Parcs, we won't even get to see it because we will be trying to entertain two children and two dogs.'

'I'm very sure it would not be what the Queen or the Royal Family wants. I'm sure they will not want everybody who was due to go

to Center Parcs on a holiday to have their holiday spoiled, and for them to have this stress of trying to organise something different.'

'Goodness only knows where we are supposed to go!'

'We are three and a half hours away from home, so it's simply not possible to come home and go back again the next day.'

A legal expert last night claimed that Center Parcs may have faced breaking consumer and contract law if it carried out the plan of forcing customers to leave.

Barrister Daniel Barnett said the company had no legal right to remove people from accommoda-

tion they paid for without going to court to get an injunction, which would be expensive and damaging for its reputation.

He stressed: 'Center Parcs can't chuck you out on Monday.'

The row comes as Britain is set to fall silent on Monday as high streets, schools, supermarkets, other businesses and factories close while the nation pays its respects to the Queen.

The day has been officially designated a bank holiday as hundreds of thousands flock to London to witness history.

At the same time, millions will be tuned into TV coverage at home.

Retail chains, historic sites, cinemas and theme parks, which would normally open on a bank holiday, have already signalled their doors will shut.

At this stage it is not clear whether pubs will be serving as normal, but it may be left to the discretion of landlords. Pub giant JD Wetherspoon last night said no decision had been made while food chains, such as McDonald's, are also yet to decide.

The Government indicated it expects mass closures, saying: 'We would expect that many workers will be able to take the day off on the bank holiday.'



Making a splash: Water slide at Elveden Forest



Closure plan: Resorts such as Elveden Forest, above, were going to ask guests to leave

NHS to postpone thousands of GPs' and hospital appointments

THOUSANDS of people will have hospital and GP appointments cancelled because of the Queen's funeral.

Some trusts have postponed all non-urgent procedures and clinics on Monday after it was declared a bank holiday.

It includes hip and knee replacements, cataract surgery, maternity checks and even some cancer treatments.

NHS England has told patients to ensure they have enough medication to get them through the three-day weekend after informing GP surgeries they can close all day on Monday.

In a letter to one patient the NHS blamed 'unforeseen circumstances'. School closures mean many NHS staff are unable to work as they must provide childcare.

NHS England said the decision on whether to postpone operations is a decision 'for trusts to make locally'. It told hospitals to contact all patients to inform them if their appointments will be going ahead or not. It comes as a record 6.8 million people –

By **Shaun Wooller**
Health Correspondent

one in eight in England – are on a waiting list, with 377,000 waiting more than a year.

The UK will have a bank holiday to mark the Queen's funeral but government guidelines say 'there is no statutory entitlement to time off', adding that this is 'a matter for discussion between individuals and their employer'.

NHS England said: 'NHS staff will work to ensure that urgent and emergency services... are available.'



RUSH FOR ROYAL MEMORABILIA

MONEY MAIL STARTS PAGE 43

Flights and hotel prices rocket night before Queen laid to rest

AIRLINES and hotels were accused of cashing in on the Queen's funeral by hiking fares and room rates by up to six-fold this weekend.

Analysis by the Mail yesterday found the cheapest Edinburgh to Heathrow fare with BA on Sunday, the day before the funeral, was £422. But it dropped to £99 a day later for a flight that would arrive after the service had started. BA was also demanding £404 for a flight from Newcastle to Heathrow that cost £99 a few days later.

Ryanair had flights from Dublin to Gatwick from £85 on Sunday – dropping to £13 the following Sunday – more than six times

Daily Mail Reporter

less. Our analysis also found hotel prices for Sunday night were far higher than the equivalent day a week later.

People hoping to stay over the night before the historic event face paying up to £1,500 for a double room at the Park Plaza, Westminster Bridge – six times the £250 cost of the same room there the following Sunday.

The Strand Palace in Covent Garden has a double room on the eve of her funeral for £800, versus £232 a week later.

Mark Godfrey, from Norfolk, condemned the high prices. His partner, Neil Marcham, was a member of the Royal household for 20 years so the couple were keen to be there.

He said: 'I wanted to travel to London on Sunday and pay my respects to the Queen lying-in-state before lining the streets on Monday. As soon as the date was released for the funeral, hotel prices rocketed.'

The Park Plaza group and The Strand Palace declined to comment on the apparent price rises. BA and easyJet both denied 'artificially' hiking prices this weekend.

DEATH OF THE AGE

ELIZABETH faced the kind of challenge she had never before confronted in October 1964. For the first time in her reign, the British people had voted in a Labour Government.

At first, courtiers worried that the arrival of Harold Wilson, the product of a Yorkshire grammar school, would represent a 'culture shock'. Indeed, some of Wilson's ministers found the ritual of kissing hands with the Monarch, during which they were expected to walk backwards and bow, frankly absurd.

In his diary, the Labour minister Richard Crossman wrote of being ushered into a vast drawing room to see the Queen. 'At the other end there was this little woman with a beautiful waist,' he recalled. 'We were uneasy, she was uneasy. Then at the end informality broke out and she said, "You all moved backwards very nicely," and we laughed.'

The incident set the tone for perhaps the warmest relationship with any of Elizabeth's prime ministers. Palace insiders were struck by her rapport with the affable, cheeky Wilson — who for all his socialist principles, had enormous respect for the monarchy.

Most of Wilson's ministers, too, were deeply impressed by the Sovereign's warmth and encouragement. Crossman, for example, found her shy but warm, with 'a lovely laugh'. Wilson's deputy George Brown, once a working-class boy from Lambeth, got on so well with the Queen,

In 1970, the royal 'walkabout' was born in Australia

he used to call her 'my dear' without her being even slightly offended.

The exception was the Left-wing Tony Benn, who tried to persuade the Queen to drop her head from Britain's stamps. But she was having none of it; both then and later, she proved brilliantly adept at preserving the traditions of the monarchy.

For Elizabeth these were relatively peaceful years. Her children were growing up and she had settled into the routine of monarchy, from Ascot and the Derby to the State Opening of Parliament, from her summer garden parties to her Christmas television broadcasts.

Yet her nation was changing at an extraordinary pace. The 1950s had brought affluence, TV and rock and roll; the 1960s were the decade of the satire boom, The Beatles, mini-skirts and hippies.

Most ordinary people, of course, remained strikingly conservative. Support for the monarchy was still very high and surveys found that more people dreamed about Elizabeth than about any other public figure or celebrity.

Yet since life at the Palace had barely changed since her father's day, some of her younger advisers, such as her new press secretary William Heseltine, thought modernisation was long overdue.

A good example was the Queen's slow reaction to the disaster at Aberfan in October 1966, when a spoil tip collapsed on to a Welsh mining village and killed 144 people, most of them schoolchildren.

Wilson immediately rushed to the scene, as did Prince Philip. But Elizabeth stayed in London,



Picture: PA

MONARCH WHO SHAPED OUR LIVES 1964-1981



by **DOMINIC SANDBROOK**

insisting that she did not want to distract attention from the relief efforts. It was a rare misjudgment but it anticipated another, even more damaging display of passivity three decades later, after the death of Princess Diana.

On the occasion of Aberfan, Elizabeth did go to South Wales,

albeit a week after the accident. As so often, her quiet, serious manner was exactly what was required. She talked to the villagers as a mother, not as a queen. Afterwards, a Mrs Williams, whose husband had lost seven relatives, told the Press the Queen was 'the most charming person I have ever met. Really down to earth'.

This was exactly the reaction insiders like Heseltine wanted. And in 1968, keen to drag the monarchy into the present, he persuaded the Queen to allow in BBC and ITV cameras for a fly-on-the-wall documentary.

The result, televised in June 1969 as Royal Family, was one of the most watched programmes of all time, seen by a staggering 68 per cent of the population.

More than any other event of the Queen's reign, this was the moment when the monarchy finally recognised the new power of the mass media. In the film's most famous scene, the cameras even captured a family barbecue in the countryside near Balmoral.

Anne lights the barbecue. Philip grills sausages. And the Queen makes a salad, grinning at the Prince of Wales, who is whisking the dressing. It sounds anodyne but, at the time, it was a sensation.

The Sixties ignited a social revolution that swept away all the old certainties — and suddenly even the Queen was fair game. Some feared the royals were on their way out... until the 1977 Silver Jubilee proved the sceptics spectacularly wrong

As the Tory MP and TV critic Julian Critchley remarked, it was astonishing to see a programme 'devoted to the proposition that the Queen is a human being'.

For years the monarch had been presented as almost magical, as though floating above the humdrum realities of everyday life. Now the Queen had effectively admitted to her people that she was just like them. From that point on, there was no turning back.

For the moment, though, the consequences were not entirely clear. Indeed, when Elizabeth visited Australia and New Zealand in 1970, her popularity seemed to have hit an all-time high.

For the first time, as part of her new informality, she and Philip strolled casually down streets, shaking hands with the crowds. A Daily Mail reporter, Vincent Mulchrone, used the Australian word 'walkabout' to describe this, and a new royal ritual was born.

Back home, however, the storm clouds were gathering. And as Elizabeth approached her 50th year, the first critics stuck their heads above the parapet.

The turning point came in the early 1970s, when the Left-wing New Statesman led a strident campaign against a planned increase in the Civil List. For the

first time in living memory, royal finances were the stuff of public debate: in Lambeth, Left-wing councillors took down a portrait of the Queen and hid it under the sofa. The sad truth was that in a new climate of aggressive disrespect, Elizabeth could no longer count on the deference her father had taken for granted.

When the Government increased

Teenagers wore badges reading 'Liz rules OK'

the Civil List in line with inflation in 1975, Private Eye's cover — 'Windsor Woman In Massive £420,000 Pools Win', above a picture of the Queen saying: 'It will not change my way of life' — showed how attitudes had changed.

And while Elizabeth was understandably proud of her daughter's equestrian achievements, which won her the Sports Personality of the Year award in 1971, many ordinary people found Princess Anne's manner prickly. The

OF DEFERENCE

PRIVATE EYE

WINDSOR WOMAN IN MASSIVE £420,000 POOLS WIN



Princess, declared one Fleet Street columnist, was not merely 'snappish', she was 'bloody rude'.

An even greater problem was the Queen's sister Margaret, whose marriage to Lord Snowdon had hit the rocks. In March 1976, the Palace was forced to confirm that Margaret was separated from her husband. Two years later, they were divorced.

At the time, Harold Wilson assured Elizabeth that the news would be overshadowed by the reports of his shock resignation. In a nice homely touch, he had told her his plan while the Queen, wearing an apron, was washing up after tea at Balmoral.

Wilson was wrong. With newspapers hungry for celebrities and scandals, Margaret dominated the headlines for months, not least because her new lover, the strapping young gardener Roddy Llewellyn, seemed so gloriously inappropriate.

From this point on, the image of

the House of Windsor as the ideal British family was irreparably tarnished, even though Elizabeth herself remained the model of consistency, duty and service.

Many people predicted that 1977's Silver Jubilee, which would mark 25 years of Elizabeth's reign, would be a washout. Indeed, as late as that spring there were reports of street parties being cancelled for lack of interest, while local authorities were said to be making little effort.

As it happened, the Jubilee was a triumph. The previous decade had not been kind to Britain, with the economy racked by devaluation, strikes and the humiliation of an IMF bailout. But ordinary people, it turned out, were desperate to find something to cheer.

Although it rained heavily on the big day, June 7, London was packed with crowds, many of them teenagers carrying banners and badges reading 'Liz Rules

OK' and 'Cool Rule Liz'. Across Britain there were thousands of street parties.

At one event in Stepney, ordinary working-class Londoners queued up to tell reporters why they were celebrating. 'She's a good queen,' one woman said. 'She's Britain, yer know.' 'I'm a monarchist myself,' agreed another. 'Always 'ave been. Who'd want to live in a republic?'

To Elizabeth, the success of the



Smiling through: Far left, Elizabeth carries a posy through a crowd of well-wishers near the Tower of London in June 1977. Above, poster for a Sex Pistols single in the same year. Left, Private Eye pokes fun at the Civil List in February 1975

Jubilee came as a welcome surprise. In middle age, as in her youth, she remained essentially a shy, serious, dedicated woman, with little conceit or vanity. 'I am simply amazed,' she told one of her ladies of the bedchamber, as she gazed out of Buckingham Palace at the vast crowds on the Mall. 'I had no idea.'

Even her old critic John Grigg now admitted that, far from being a 'pain in the neck', her solid conservatism was her greatest asset. 'Through fluctuating fashion and considerable moral disintegration,' he observed, 'she has lived up to her own high standards and has shown how much family life means to her, and has stood rock-firm for all it represents.'

Yet although Elizabeth herself held fast to the old-fashioned virtues she had learned as a child, her realm had changed almost beyond recognition.

At the beginning of her reign, Britain had ruled much of Africa, South-East Asia and parts of the Middle East. By the time of the Silver Jubilee, however, the Empire had disintegrated and, in 1973, Britain had become a member of the European Community, the ancestor of today's EU.

Social change, meanwhile, was transforming the daily life of her people, from the rise of foreign holidays and ready meals to feminism and gay rights.

In May 1979, for the first time in British history, the Monarch found another woman beside her on the public stage. After yet more strikes, the public had turned to the Tory leader Margaret Thatcher.

Now Elizabeth had to get used to audiences with a fellow woman of decidedly robust opinions.

Of course she never spoke publicly about her relationship with Mrs Thatcher. But in the years that followed, courtiers often gossiped that their rapport was less than perfect — not least because, to Elizabeth's horror, the new Prime Minister had little time for her beloved Commonwealth.

The relationship was 'more

businesslike than warm', remarked one insider after the first couple of years.

This was an abrasive, aggressive age, in which the Queen's quiet virtues were often overlooked. And a brutal lesson in the world's new realities came in August 1979, when Elizabeth was told some of the worst news imaginable. Her 79-year-old cousin Louis Mountbatten, a beloved mentor to her husband and eldest son, had gone to Ireland for a fishing trip. There, the IRA planted a bomb in his yacht, killing Mountbatten and

Mountbatten's murder was a devastating blow

two young boys — one of them his grandson.

Elizabeth was at Balmoral when she heard the news; it came, friends said, as a 'devastating personal blow'.

Under the circumstances, it was all the more impressive that the Queen remained a great friend to Northern Ireland. Indeed, when she visited the Republic of Ireland for the first time in 2011 and talked of the 'sad and regrettable' record of Anglo-Irish history, all were struck by her magnanimity.

Her humility was 'astonishing', wrote one local commentator, especially given the pain of the loss of her cousin all those years before.

But to anyone who had closely followed her story, it was not astonishing at all. Throughout her life, Elizabeth had always appealed for peace and friendship between nations, always turned the other cheek, and always put her nation above herself.

Little wonder, then, that she was so popular abroad. In all our history, Britain has never had a better ambassador.

TOMORROW: It's A Royal Knockout and a Queen at bay

Daily Mail

COMMENT

No second chance for this greatest farewell

A HOMECOMING, but the most sorrowful sort. Under shroud-black skies last night, the Queen arrived at Buckingham Palace for the final time.

Her flag-draped coffin was met by grieving members of the Royal Family – led by King Charles III and the Queen Consort – who will mourn privately. Such a source of stability, comfort and continuity for the nation for so many years, it is still scarcely believable she is no longer in our presence.

Scarcely believable, too, that a few short weeks ago thrilled crowds packed into the Mall to cheer her appearance on the palace balcony to mark her Platinum Jubilee.

What a poignant contrast to today, when solemn well-wishers will line London's streets as her coffin is transported to Westminster Hall, for four days' lying in state.

However, there are grave fears the Government and authorities (not, we hasten to add, the Palace) have failed to plan adequately for the huge public desire to salute the much-loved sovereign in person.

People, having flocked from across the kingdom, face 35-hour queues to file past her coffin. Logistics suggest only 400,000 will do so – with millions left bitterly disappointed.

But man has landed on the Moon, for goodness' sake. It shouldn't be beyond the wit of ministers and officials to find a common sense solution. What about extending the funeral route, to ease the immense strain?

As Robert Hardman writes today, this is to be the greatest collective farewell of our lifetimes. We won't get a second chance.

Breach of protocol

IN a moving service of reflection in Belfast yesterday, attended by King Charles, the Archbishop of Armagh spoke powerfully of one of the Queen's finest achievements.

Driven by duty and empathy, he said, she was a major force for healing and reconciliation between Northern Ireland's divided Unionist and Nationalist communities, as well as Britain and Ireland.

Indeed, her historic handshake with the former IRA terrorist Martin McGuinness in 2012 signposted a better future, free from bloodshed and hatred.

On the first visit to the province by a British king in 80 years, Charles rightly pledged to follow her 'shining example'.

After all, he himself has been touched by Troubles tragedy: The IRA murdered his great-uncle, Earl Mountbatten, in a brutal terror attack in 1979. He knows perfectly well that as sovereign he cannot overstep into political opinion – especially given the sensitivities in Northern Ireland.

It is hard, then, to understand what Simon Coveney seeks to achieve by hinting that the King wants a deal with the EU on the broken Northern Ireland protocol, which has already inflamed sectarian tensions.

Is the Irish foreign minister cynically seeking to exploit the mourning period for political ends? Or does he fundamentally misunderstand that the British monarch has to be strictly politically neutral?

Policing free speech

WITH wearying inevitability, a tiny number of anti-monarchist protesters have targeted public events to mourn the Queen and celebrate the new King.

But while these demonstrations were insensitive and inappropriate, the police's heavy-handed response to those expressing republican views is deeply troubling.

Should a man who yelled 'Who elected him?' at a proclamation of Charles III really be arrested? Was it honestly proportionate to charge a woman simply for holding up a sign that read 'Abolish the monarchy'? Their actions were hardly high treason.

Sadly, this was the latest disturbing example of officers overstepping the mark.

In this of all weeks, it's important the police remember the monarchy symbolises our democratic liberties. And the most essential one of those is freedom of speech.

Arresting people for criticising the monarchy will only damage the monarchy itself

THERE is stern policing; and there is idiotic policing. On Sunday afternoon, a history tutor living in Oxford called Symon Hill was handcuffed for shouting 'who elected him?' during the proclamation of King Charles III in the city.

The next morning, outside Parliament, a woman holding up a placard on which she had written 'not my king' on one side and 'abolish the monarchy' on the other was swiftly moved on by a gaggle of police.

In Scotland, a 22-year-old man heckling Prince Andrew as he processed behind the Queen's coffin along Edinburgh's Royal Mile on Monday afternoon was grabbed by members of the crowd and the police, and later charged with a public order offence.

Idiotic

Another woman, also 22, was arrested and charged in Scotland's capital on Monday for holding a sign that read '*** imperialism, abolish the monarchy' before the accession proclamation outside St Giles' Cathedral.

There have been a smattering of other similar cases making headlines, too.

Now, each of these events is different. The tutor in Oxford, for instance, may have been provocative and irritating to monarchists standing around him when he demanded: 'Who elected him?' But it was – in this freedom-loving nation – a question he was perfectly within his right to ask.

As for the man in Edinburgh who shouted abuse at the Duke of York, I thought he was being grotesque, given the solemnity of the moment. He was, frankly, being a pillock. 'There's a time and place,' as my parents would have said.

But take these all together and it might begin to look as if people who don't want the monarchy or a new king – and are prepared to say so in public – are being targeted by the police. And that is democratically unacceptable.

The most bizarre example of all came on Monday – again



by Andrew Marr

outside Parliament – and echoed a form of protest that was first seen in Russia during the early days of Putin's barbaric war in Ukraine.

A barrister and environmental activist named Paul Powlesland held up a blank piece of paper. When he later moved on to Downing Street, a police officer asked him for his details and told him that if he wrote 'not my king' on the paper, he would be arrested under the Public Order Act.

Videos have gone viral online of brave Russians similarly holding up blank pieces of paper and being bundled into Black Marias by Putin's goons.

When I interviewed Powlesland for my LBC radio show, he was bemused and amused, calling the experience 'ludicrous'. But his style of protest appears to have caught on: yesterday, a group gathered in Edinburgh outside St Giles' Cathedral – where the Queen was lying in rest – and held up blank sheets of paper and a plain white banner. They seemed to be protesting in support of Powlesland – and freedom of speech in general.

Conservative MP David Davis is not the only one in the kingdom troubled by this heavy-handed policing.

'At a time of national mourning, we should all ensure that we behave respectfully,' he tweeted yesterday. 'But we must not sacrifice the principle of free speech upon which modern Britain is built.'

On Monday, Davis wrote to the Chief Constable of Police Scotland, expressing his concern that the female

protester who held the '*** imperialism' placard outside St Giles' Cathedral had been charged. Davis wrote: 'If the individual concerned committed acts of violence, or the police had reason to believe she would, then action would obviously be necessary. But if the individual was simply stating an opinion, I trust you agree that a liberal approach would be desirable.'

Quite so. In each case, however, the police excuse seems to be the same: that someone else might be offended by the protest. They might then retaliate and commit a breach of the peace – so, to prevent that, the protester should be removed. But surely if you go around deliberately saying things that infuriate others, provoking them at a time of heightened public emotion, and end up getting thumped, it's nobody's fault but your own? This is called personal responsibility.

And if the police still insist someone must be arrested, perhaps it should be the thumper, rather than the possible thumpee.

Heavy-handed

At any rate, holding up a politely worded placard is so inoffensive that the public order argument implodes. Some of the messages have been rude, I concede, but 'not my king' or even 'abolish the monarchy' are surely well within the boundaries of civil disagreement. And since when has swearing been a crime?

There is a bigger point here. We are a robust democracy based on free speech. And that means we don't have the

right not to be offended, whatever the issue in question. There are protections against speech which is deliberately intended to generate hatred or violence – but beyond that it is, or should be, open season. How else are ideas challenged and tested?

One of those ideas is monarchy itself. But, perhaps ironically, over-zealous policing is dangerous for monarchism.

For centuries, kings and queens have been booed as well as cheered as they clatter past on their horses and in their ornate carriages.

At the time of the Union of Scotland and England in 1707, that same Royal Mile echoed to the extremely abusive anti-English and anti-royal jeers of a Scottish patriotic mob (we have Daniel Defoe, author of Robinson Crusoe and sometime English spy, to thank for an eyewitness account).

Responsibility

Monarchy has always been unpopular with some. Even Queen Victoria faced a rise in republican sentiment towards the end of her reign, when she had withdrawn from public life as the 'widow of Windsor'.

Before her, the Hanoverian monarchs were confronted by some of the rudest cartoons ever drawn by human hand. Yet somehow the cavalcade went on.

Is the modern British monarchy really such a flimsy, uncertain thing that it is threatened by a history tutor asking a question, a woman holding up a small hand-made placard or a young man shouting on the street? What a ludicrous, offensive thought.

Overwhelmingly, this country prizes its monarchy, particularly at times like these: opinion polls suggest King Charles's approval ratings have rocketed this month. But we prize our liberties and our free speech, I would argue, even more.

The state would be well advised never, ever to suggest that we might have to choose between them. And I would wager a fair wad of money that the King agrees.

■ ANDREW MARR presents Tonight With Andrew Marr on LBC.

'At a time of mourning, we should be respectful – but not sacrifice the principle of free speech'



**JANUARY 28,
1965**

by **VINCENT
MULCHRONE**

TWO rivers run silently through London tonight, and one is made of people. Dark and quiet as the night-time Thames itself, it flows through Westminster Hall, eddying about the foot of the rock called Churchill.

And for all the tears and the stiff, awkward movements of Englishmen ashamed to give in to mourning, the first day of the lying-in-state of Sir Winston Churchill is ending on a note well removed from grief.

If you could distil the emotion that has flowed through England's most venerable hall today into a sound the heart would recognise, it would never fit the plaintive oboe.

You would have to play it bravely, distantly, on a bugle made for war.

People grieving give up something of themselves. The people who came back to Churchill today seemed, on the contrary, to be drawing some intangible strength from him.

Cold in his coffin, he was no less an inspiration.

It showed itself in many ways as the true tapestry of England — not the braided, glinting highlights of ceremonial, but the rough and ready weave of the people — went by.

There was no form, scarcely any precedent, so people did the best they knew, out of a rich diversity of background and breeding.

Soldierly men came to the sort of attention which must have hurt their old backs and, without breaking the smooth pace of those pressing behind, bowed their heads in a clipped, military way.

AND there were some, even, who managed to fall on both knees as they passed the catafalque and immediately rise without ostensibly embarrassing those behind.

Some blessed themselves with the Sign of the Cross. Some shook their heads as though impatient with death for taking him away. Some even seemed to walk by without looking up at the coffin.

But all looked back.

Before they left, some instinct of

history made them pause, turn, and take a last look at the scene.

The incredibly patient queue grew and shrank with the passing hours. But for most of the day it stretched two or three deep, from the St Stephen's entrance to the House of Commons, along Millbank, across Lambeth Bridge, and turned back on itself along the South Bank of the Thames almost to St. Thomas' Hospital, forming three sides of an oblong.

They went into the Palace of Westminster by the route many a commoner has gone to see the MP who lay there tonight.

But instead of going straight ahead to the central lobby, they

turned left and came in a slow cascade down the steps into Westminster Hall.

The chief illumination came from soft lights directed on to the bronze forest of Sussex oak which is the glorious hammerbeam roof of the Hall. Below, all was as grey and chill as the atmosphere which pervaded the Hall, save for the catafalque area, lit by six candles.

Day-long, the three Services took part in the death watch over their old chief. The Navy, the Guards, the strangely young successors of The Few who fought the Battle of Britain, succeeded each other at the four corners of the catafalque.

For a brief time this morning

there happened one of those splendid bursts of pageantry, when the four Defence chiefs — Earl Mountbatten, Admiral Sir David Luce, General Sir Richard Hull and Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Elworthy, took their 20-minute spell in the death watch by the bier.

For two hours Churchill's contemporaries, friends and ex-foes alike, moved by Peers and Commons, the Royal Household and foreign ambassadors were the only figures on this momentous scene. For the first two hours of the lying-in-state, these people claimed Churchill for themselves.

The Earl Marshal of England had

**When the Queen
lies in State today,
we won't have seen
anything like it
since Churchill.
Read the Mail's
electrifying report
from 1965 to grasp
how momentous an
occasion it'll be...**

**Vigil: Guards at the catafalque
in Westminster Hall as crowds
pass Sir Winston's coffin**

Picture: POPPERFOTO/GETTY

decided that this unique moment was not for the history books. No reporters were allowed in. No record was made.

As Big Ben struck 11, fateful hour in two world wars, the physician who pronounced Sir Winston dead joined the VIP queue moving slowly across the silent, carpeted floor.

Lord Moran was as much a friend as doctor to the man beneath the Union Jack. He walked, black topper in hand, explaining the scene to a grave-faced boy in grey.

As the chimes of Parliament's clock died away, the guard about the bier went about its silent change, every movement ordered by two smart raps from a scabbard on the stone floor.

The flow of people, on either side of the bier halted as the new guard took over.

SO, FOR a full minute, Lord Moran gazed at the bright Garter emblems resting on a black velvet cushion on the coffin of his knightly friend.

Throughout the day, policemen, strangely gentle, urged the twin flows along. By nightfall, as offices closed and the queue grew, they were passing through at the rate of 4,000 an hour.

The interminable, anonymous stream flowed on through the night. Occasionally, a famous face went slowly by. The Marquis of Exeter — Lord Burghley the athlete — limped steadily past the bier on two walking-sticks. Behind him came an unknown, grey-bearded man, a crucifix clutched to his chest.

Mothers carried sleeping babies. Small, uncomprehending boys clutched comics and even tried to read them by the light of the tall saffron candles.

Always there were tears, women blowing their noses hard, men flicking away something that seemed to have got into their eye.

But for everyone who cried there were a hundred who straightened their shoulders. It wasn't grief which invested Westminster Hall tonight, it was pride.

**SARAH VINE
IS AWAY**

28,561 Number of Channel migrants now beats last year's record

By Izzy Lyons

MORE migrants have illegally crossed the English Channel in small boats so far this year than in the whole of 2021, figures show.

On Monday, 601 migrants were detected in 19 boats in the Channel, the Ministry of Defence said, taking the provisional total for 2022 to 28,561 and overtaking last year's record of 28,526.

Numbers are expected to continue rising as dozens more migrants arrive in the UK, including a large group of men and women who were picked up by an RNLI lifeboat and brought into Dungeness, Kent, yesterday morning.

The last few months have been busy for illegal Channel crossings because of the calm weather. August 22 saw the



Arriving: Migrants on an RNLI lifeboat at Dungeness, Kent

highest daily total on record, with 1,295 crossing in 27 boats.

In September, 3,518 crossings have been recorded so far – more than the total number of crossings for the whole of 2019.

The 2022 figure to date is nearly double the number that had been detected by this point last year, which was just under

14,500. Figures show 299 migrants were detected crossing the Straits of Dover in 2018, followed by 1,843 in 2019 and 8,466 in 2020.

Albanians account for about 60 per cent of the number of arrivals this summer. Smuggling gangs targeted them this week with shameless social media

adverts using the Queen's death to promote discounted deals.

The gangs are using TikTok to push half-price deals of £1,600 for any migrant who 'wants to take part in the funeral of this lady' to do so before Monday.

That is half the price of the 'summer sale' deals of £3,000 to £3,500 the gangs were offering two months ago.

It is five months since Priti Patel, the then Home Secretary, announced plans to send migrants to Rwanda to try to deter illegal crossings.

The plan has been stalled since June 14, when the first deportation flight was due to depart, after human rights groups and lawyers launched last minute legal challenges.

Since the agreement with the East African nation was announced, 23,293 people have made the journey to the UK.

Good news! Jobless rate hits 48-year low

By Lucy White
Chief City Reporter

BRITAIN'S unemployment rate has fallen to a 48-year low after the post-pandemic rebound helped thousands into jobs.

The rate dropped to 3.6 per cent between May and July, its lowest level since 1974 – meaning just 1.2million adults are now out of work.

At the same time, the number of filled jobs in the UK hit an all-time high of 35.8million – the first time this rate has climbed above pre-Covid levels since the pandemic struck two years ago.

But while the record-low rate of joblessness means many households will have wages to support them through the cost of living crunch, there are fears the labour market is beginning to cool.

And wages, meanwhile, are failing to keep up with inflation.

Office for National Statistics figures found average weekly earnings were up 5.5 per cent in the three months to July compared to the same period a year ear-

'Tough decisions about staffing levels'

lier. But in real terms, workers were on average 2.8 per cent worse off.

Jake Finney, from PwC, said: 'Workers are seeing their real pay fall at almost the fastest rate this century. Our analysis suggests this squeeze on living standards will continue to tighten, with real wages potentially around 5 per cent lower than their 2021 levels by the end of 2022. This means that the average worker will be around £30 worse off a week and £1,400 worse off a year.'

Danni Hewson, a financial analyst at AJ Bell, said: 'Behind the headline figures there are signs that the booming jobs market is feeling the strain of the current economic crisis. Vacancy numbers experienced the largest quarterly fall since the same period two years ago after the first lockdown sent shockwaves through the labour market. Some companies are freezing recruitment and smaller businesses in particular

have been having to make tough decisions about staffing levels.'

As the Bank of England tries to get a grip on the cost of living by hiking interest rates to encourage saving, it runs the risk of sparking higher unemployment as businesses resist investing in employees.

Job vacancies have hit record highs over the past year as firms struggled to find staff after reopening post-lockdowns. But the

latest figures showed vacancies fell by 34,000 in June to August compared to the previous three months, to 1.3million – the largest drop since summer 2020.

But there are worrying signs beneath the surface, with a sharp rise in the number adults too sick to work. The number of 'economically inactive' working-age people – who have no job and are not looking for one, because they are students, have

a long-term illness or are taking a career break – is up around 600,000 on pre-Covid levels.

The ONS data showed a large chunk of this was due to long-term sickness, which has jumped to its highest level on record at 2.5million people, or 5.9 per cent of the working-age population. This appears to have been driven by long Covid, mental health, and long NHS waiting lists for treatment.



Guess who's now the UK's 4th biggest supermarket?

ALDI has overtaken Morrisons to become Britain's fourth biggest supermarket.

The German discounter's sales rose 18.7 per cent over the three months to September, giving it a 9.3 per cent market share and overtaking Morrisons on 9.1 per cent.

Meanwhile, fellow budget chain Lidl increased sales by 20.9 per cent and its market share to 7.1 per cent.

Aldi UK and Ireland chief executive Giles Hurley said shoppers were 'voting

By Sean Poulter
Consumer Affairs Editor

with their feet by choosing Aldi over full price traditional supermarkets'.

It comes as grocery inflation hit a record high of 12.4 per cent in the past month, up from last month's record of 11.6 per cent. Data from research firm Kantar shows the average annual grocery bill could surge from £4,610 to £5,181 if consumers do not shop around.

Ephraim Hardcastle



CHARLES Moore, attending Monday's Westminster Hall ceremony where

parliamentarians pledged allegiance to the new King, spotted one Labour MP who crossed his fingers behind his back while taking the oath in an attempt to avoid swearing allegiance to King Charles. In 2019 SNP MP Steven Bonnar and in 1997 the late Labour MP Tony Banks did the same to avoid pledging allegiance to the Queen. Accusing the latest offender of thinking his gesture was 'funny', Lord Moore rages: 'By doing so, he was not expressing legitimate (if misguided) republican sentiments: he was cheating.' Name the anti-Royalist Charles!

PRINCE Philip might guffaw at the burgeoning campaign to have a statue of the Queen erected in Trafalgar or Parliament Square. He agreed to have a statue of himself, next to the Queen, carved for the west front of Canterbury Cathedral in 2015. At its unveiling he mused that his image bore an uncanny resemblance to Boris Karloff, muttering: 'I'm sure the pigeons will like it.'

COMEDIAN Michael McIntyre wails about his weight, saying he devours wife Kitty's leftovers. Kitty, pictured, daughter of late actor Simon Ward, allows hubby to finish her breakfasts. 'I eat all of her potatoes and her gnocchi,' he says, pointing to his stomach. 'This is her crust. This is 20 years of crust, it should be on her flat tummy. These are her gnocchi boobs.' Why isn't Macca as funny on stage?



THE Queen never lost her taste for driving. Famously, she terrified Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah at Balmoral in 1998 when she took the driving seat. 'Abdullah's nervousness only increased as the Queen, an army driver in wartime, accelerated the Land Rover along the narrow Scottish estate roads, talking all the time,' recalls former Foreign Office mandarin Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles. 'Through his interpreter, the [then] crown prince implored the Queen to slow down and concentrate on the road ahead.' Was HM making a subtle point about women not being allowed to drive in the desert kingdom.

AS Prince Charles's communications adviser, Julian Payne consistently poo-pooed suggestions that HRH travelled the world with a loo seat given to him by Princess Anne. Now he tackles the new King's alleged fussiness with eggs, pontificating: 'Despite rumours that the King is served a line of eggs to choose from every morning, I never saw a single boiled egg at breakfast in all the years I worked there.' The tale was first revealed in Catherine Mayer's biography of Charles and it was about the eggs prepared for him when he returned from hunting. Nothing to do with breakfast.

IRISH foreign affairs minister Simon Coveney reminds King Charles of his pledge to visit every one of Ireland's 32 counties. 'I'm slightly amazed to find that we've managed to visit 15 counties already,' he said. 'I am quite determined before I drop dead and finally lose my marbles that I should get around to the remaining 17.' Now that he is monarch how will he find the time to fulfil his promise?

Email: john.mcintee@dailymail.co.uk



British invasion: Nicholas Hoult, left, and winner Matthew Macfadyen with wife Keeley Hawes

Zendaya and Lily bring the glamour back to Emmy awards

Lady in red: Zendaya in Valentino at the ceremony on Monday night



Dramatic: Lily James wears a sweeping gown

IT WAS a muted affair last year, when Covid protocols thwarted the usual pomp and spectacle.

But the Primetime Emmy Awards on Monday saw all the glitz and glamour rush back. Zendaya and Lily James both showed off their figures in sweeping dresses on the red carpet.

The *Greatest Showman* actress Zendaya, 26, who won her second Emmy for best actress in a drama, looked chic in a scarlet Valentino gown with a plunging off-the-shoulder neckline.

She won the award for her role as a recovering drug-addict teen

By Imogen Horton

in US series *Euphoria*. She bagged an Emmy for the same role in 2020 and is the youngest actress to have won this category.

British actress Miss James, 33, who was nominated for her role as Pamela Anderson in miniseries *Pam And Tommy*, wore a shimmering Versace dress to the LA event. But Amanda Seyfried, 36, won the gong for lead actress in a limited series or movie for her role in *The Dropout*, beating Miss James.

Bodyguard actress Keeley Hawes, 46, wore an elegant spotted tulle Jenny Packham dress with crystal-embellished bows

and puff sleeves. She was joined by her husband Matthew Macfadyen, 47, who beat his *Succession* co-stars to win best supporting actor in a drama series for the first time. Fellow Briton Nicholas

'A big week for successions'

Hoult gave a nod to the 1970s in a pair of black flared trousers.

Succession, which follows the ruthless Logan Roy and his media empire, was the big winner of the night, scooping the coveted outstanding drama series gong for the

second time. But on accepting the award, British writer Jesse Armstrong, 51, took a joking swipe at the ascension of King Charles III – only for it to fall horribly flat.

He told the audience: 'It's a big week for successions, a new King in the UK, this for us. Evidently a bit more voting involved in our winning than for Prince Charles.'

The crowd was silent as the show's Scottish lead actor Brian Cox quickly added: 'Keep it royalist, keep it royalist.'

Armstrong then scrambled to recover, saying: 'I'm not saying that we're any more legitimate in our position than he is, we'll leave that to other people.'

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Killed by kangaroo

Animal beats Oz alpaca farmer to death in first fatal attack since 1936



Aggressive: An adult male kangaroo



Main picture: Peter Eades with his much-loved herd of alpacas on his farm

AN Australian farmer with a love of animals was beaten to death by a kangaroo he kept as a pet.

In the first such incident in 86 years, Peter Eades, 77, died after the animal he had hand-raised from a joey unexpectedly turned on him.

Paramedics called to the farm in south-west Australia – where Mr Eades bred alpacas – were unable to approach until police shot dead the three-year-old animal, which they feared might attack again.

The alarm had been raised when a relative visiting the farm, 250 miles south of Perth, saw Mr Eades's battered and mauled body. Such was his love of animals that he had built a ceme-

From **Richard Shears** in Sydney

tery for his 60-head herd of alpacas, saying in a 2017 interview that he wished to be buried next to Claudia, his favourite alpaca, on his death.

It is not known how Mr Eades came to raise the kangaroo, but orphaned joeys are often found alive in their mother's pouch when the female is killed by a vehicle. Police said they had no immediate information as to whether Mr Eades had a permit to keep a wild animal.

'Permits are rarely issued,' said Tanya Irwin, of the Native Animal Rescue Service in Perth. 'This looks like it was an adult male and they become quite aggressive and don't do well in

captivity,' she said. 'Unfortunately they're not a cute animal, they're a wild animal.'

Western grey kangaroos like the one that attacked Mr Eades can weigh up to 54kg (119lb) and reach a height of 1.3m (4ft 3in). They can fight humans with the aggressive techniques

'They want to spar, they want to box'

they use on each other, grappling with their short upper limbs, using their muscular tails to take their body weight and then lashing out with both their powerful clawed hind legs.

'They're large animals, they've got a lot of weapons – sharp nails and sharp teeth – and if

they're cornered or in some sort of distress that can be quite dangerous,' said behaviour expert Graeme Coulson.

'The problem with kangaroos and people is we're both upright animals – we stand on our two feet – and an upright stance is a challenge to the male kangaroo. They don't distinguish between people and other kangaroos.'

Wildlife carer Michelle Jones said: 'At around 18 months to three years of age these beautiful, sweet, lovable animals... become wild animals ... They want to spar, they want to box.'

In the last fatal attack, in New South Wales in 1936, William Cruickshank, 38, died from head injuries and a broken jaw suffered trying to rescue his two dogs in a fight with a kangaroo.

Google 'cost UK publishers £7bn in lost revenue'

By **Jim Norton**
Technology Editor

GOOGLE'S digital advertising dominance has cost news publishers across Europe more than £21billion in lost revenue, lawyers claim.

The tech giant is accused of overcharging websites for its services while also cutting the amount they can earn from selling advertising space.

Yesterday, law firm Geradin Partners announced it would sue Google for £7billion in damages over its 'anti-competitive practices' on behalf of UK publishers.

A parallel £14billion case will also be brought against the search engine in Europe – bringing the total compensation sought to more than £21billion.

Founding partner Damien Geradin said: 'Publishers, including local and national news media who play a vital role in our society, have long been harmed by Google's anti-competitive conduct. It is time Google owns up to its responsibilities and pays back the damages it has caused to this important industry.'

Estimated to be worth more than £418billion last year, digital advertising is a key source of revenue for online publishers. Google has been accused of a stranglehold, acting as both middleman for advertisers and publishers while also owning the biggest marketplace for it.

Google said it 'works constructively with publishers across Europe... This lawsuit is speculative and opportunistic.'

'When we receive the complaint, we'll fight it vigorously.'

Earth faces age of destruction – UN

CLIMATE change is leading the world into 'uncharted territories of destruction', the head of the UN has warned at the launch of a major scientific study.

The United in Science report, coordinated by the UN's World Meteorological Organisation, forecasts that 'without ambitious action, the physical and socio-economic impacts of climate change will be devastating'.

It said greenhouse gas levels – largely carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels – continue to rise after a brief drop due to lockdowns during the pandemic.

UN secretary general Antonio Guterres said the world was 'way off track' with climate action stalling and added there was 'nothing natural' about the heatwaves in Europe, floods in Pakistan, and severe droughts in China, parts of Africa and the US.

He added: 'The current fossil fuel free-for-all must end now.'



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Offer ends 29 September. £29.95 upfront fee (router delivery: £4.95 and Sky Q standard set-up: £25. Separate 18-month contracts for Sky Q functionality (no Sky TV content): £5 per month (pm). Sky Broadband Superfast35: £25pm. Sky Talk Pay As You Talk: £0pm. Sky Q kit is loaned to you at no cost and must be returned at the end of subscription. Selected fibre areas only. Speeds vary by location. Available on new 18-month contract. Prices fixed for 18 months. Offer excludes chargeable calls. Standard prices apply after 18 months; currently: Sky Q functionality: £15pm; Sky Broadband Superfast 35: £30.50pm; & Sky Pay As You Talk: £0pm. Prices may change. Sky Broadband Superfast 35: Average speeds: 36Mbps (download); 9Mbps (upload). Availability subject to survey. No traffic management policy for Sky Broadband in the home. External factors such as internet congestion and home wiring can affect speed.

Husband, 29, murdered his wife 6 months after they had their first child

By **Chris Brooke**

A HUSBAND yesterday admitted murdering his wife six months after the birth of their first child.

Matthew Fisher, 29, pretended to be worried when he reported Abi, also 29, missing from their home and posted a plea for information on Facebook.

He wrote: 'Has anyone seen Abi? If you have, can you please let me know or get her to give me a ring?'

But housing officer Fisher had dumped her body in undergrowth by the side of a road 12 miles away.

Friends, family and members of the local community searched for the primary school teacher.

She was last seen leaving her home on a Friday night in July and Fisher posted his appeal during the search on Saturday.

Mrs Fisher's body was found on the Sunday and her husband appeared in court charged with murder the following day.

Yesterday Fisher appeared at Leeds Crown Court via a videolink from prison and pleaded guilty to murder.

Judge Tom Bayliss said he would be given a life sentence at a hearing in November.

The couple, from Castleford, West Yorkshire, had appeared happy together, with their long-held dream of parenthood finally achieved.

It is not known what caused Fisher to strangle his wife. They had married five years ago and Fisher revealed on Facebook how daughter Sydney, who was born in January, was conceived with the help of IVF.

At the end of March he posted a message on social media about the joys of parenthood, saying: 'Can't believe it has been 12 weeks already. It has been a

wonderful experience and we wouldn't change anything. We love you, Syd.'

But he went on to strangle the woman he had been with for a decade and dump her body near

'An enthusiastic, caring teacher'

the town of Brierley. Mrs Fisher's family have promised to make her proud and bring up the little girl 'the way you would'.

After her death they released a statement paying tribute to 'our

beautiful Abi', adding: 'Words cannot describe how utterly devastated we are at the loss of you. We miss you dearly.'

'We promise to make you proud every single day and will continue to bring up your amazing little baby girl the way you would.'

'Heaven may have gained an angel but we have lost you and that for us seems like the most unjust act to happen.'

'We as a family would like to thank every single person who showed enough heart and love to look for our precious angel. Words will never describe

how much this means. For now our beautiful angel. We love you so much.'

The teacher was popular among children, staff and parents at All Saints Church of England Academy in Featherstone, near Pontefract.

Headteacher Matthew Jones said: 'She will be remembered as an enthusiastic, kind and caring teacher and colleague, who gave her all each day.'

He added: 'In particular, her passion for science inspired countless children over the years - she made a real difference to so many lives.'



Killed: Abi Fisher with baby Sydney and with husband Matthew at their wedding



Armed police fury over gun colleague suspended for shooting death

By **Rebecca Camber**
Crime and Security Editor

DOZENS of armed police are threatening to hand in their weapons in protest at the suspension of an officer who shot dead an unarmed black man.

Father-to-be Chris Kaba, 24, was killed on September 5 following a police pursuit of his car in Streatham Hill, south London. On Monday, the Met Police said it had suspended the officer who fired the fatal shot - a decision that was welcomed by Mr Kaba's family.

But it has sparked outrage among firearms officers, with some threatening to step back from the role after the Queen's funeral next Monday.

A source told The Daily Telegraph: 'There is real anger in the ranks about this. Firearms officers do not get any extra money to carry out their role. They are all volunteers and they are increasingly feeling, "what is the point of doing this if our bosses do not have our backs?"'

'There is no protocol requiring an officer to be suspended following a fatal shooting. It has not happened in other cases so the question is, why now? This is a deci-

'Bosses do not have our backs'

sion that has been taken to placate public anger, pure and simple.'

Yesterday Mr Kaba's distraught family revealed that the car which sparked the chase was not registered in his name and suggested that armed officers may have mistaken the victim for the vehicle owner.

His cousin Jefferson Bosela told BBC Radio 4's Today programme: 'We need to know the difference between that - whether they were following Chris or the suspected owner of the car.'

She added that Mr Kaba's mother, Helen Nkama, was 'absolutely gutted', saying: 'She just doesn't know why this happened. She is questioning God, asking "what did I do so wrong for this to befall me?" She is just in pain, inconsolable.'

Assistant commissioner Amanda Pearson said: '[Officers] know that on the rare occasions when they discharge their weapons, they will face intense scrutiny. We don't underestimate the significant impact on the officer and colleagues.'

She added the suspension will not determine the outcome of an Independent Office for Police Conduct probe into the shooting and said the Met will 'continue to co-operate fully' with the watchdog.

sky.com



Value
you can believe in

Russian soldiers

Kremlin forces surrender as blitz exposes the invaders' 'weaknesses'

From **James Franey**
in Brussels

RUSSIAN soldiers are refusing to fight in Ukraine amid Moscow's rising losses, it was claimed last night.

A lightning counter-offensive by Kyiv last week has pushed Vladimir Putin's invaders right back to the border in parts of the north-east of the country, reclaiming huge swathes of territory lost in the early days of the war.

The blitz forced Russian troops to either flee or surrender en masse, with videos on social media purporting to show Moscow's soldiers lying down in the road in front of Kyiv's forces as they 'understand the hopelessness of their situation', Ukrainian military intelligence said.

The embarrassing turnaround was also said to be having an impact at home for Putin.

'Learning about the number of dead [estimated to be up to 43,000], Russian troops are refusing to fight on the territory of Ukraine, payments to the wounded occupiers have

'Like scoring a goal before half-time'

been halted,' said Serhiy Haidai, the governor of Luhansk. 'The military command of the Russian Federation suspended the dispatch of new, already formed units to the territory of Ukraine,' he added.

His claims were backed up by The Institute of War. The US think-tank said Kyiv's gains in the north-east Kharkiv region 'may be impacting the will or ability of the Russian military command to use newly formed volunteer units in Ukraine in a timely fashion'.

US intelligence officials told the Washington Post they expect to see further humiliating retreats made by Moscow's armed forces.

'The Russians are in trouble,' one source said. 'Their weaknesses have been exposed and they don't have great manpower reserves or equipment reserves.' Another senior Western official said it was 'too early to say' whether the gains made by Ukraine amounted to 'a turning point' in the six-month war.

'But it's a moment that has power in terms of both operations and psychology,' the official said. 'It's exactly what the Ukrainians need right now. They need that success, and they need that winning narrative. I would describe it as scoring a goal before half-time.'

Last night president Volodymyr Zelensky said Ukraine was in full control of more than 1,500 square miles of recaptured territory and is stabilising a further area of the same size. On Monday, he had said Ukraine had retaken more than 2,000 square miles in its recent counter-offensive.

Ukrainian officials, though, said it was important to make a distinction between taking territory and ensuring it was totally safe.

Kyiv said the army yesterday took control of Vovchansk – a town just two miles from the border and

which had been under occupation since in February.

Across Kharkiv, Ukrainian soldiers marked their victories by burning Russian flags. They inspected the remains of abandoned and charred enemy tanks

while brothers-in-arms helped the wounded join the celebrations.

In London, the Ministry of Defence, in its daily briefing, said that the rout by the Ukrainian armed forces had 'severely degraded' one of Russia's most

prestigious tank units. The First Guards Tank Army could take years to rebuild, officials said. The unit 'had been one of the most prestigious of Russia's armies, allocated for the defence of Moscow, and intended to lead counter-



This way to safety: A battle-scarred soldier is helped along a road by a fellow fighter in the newly-liberated Kharkiv region

Another Moscow crony dies in boat mystery

AN energy executive close to Vladimir Putin has died after falling from a boat off the country's Pacific coast – the latest in a string of mysterious deaths among Russia's business elite.

Ivan Pechorin, 39, headed a state-backed development agency aimed at drumming up investment for energy projects in Russia's oil and gas-rich eastern and Arctic regions.

He had attended a conference hosted by Putin in Vladivostok last week but on Saturday night he went overboard and his body was found off Russky Island, on Monday. His passing comes eight

months after his former boss, Igor Nosov, died from a reported stroke at the age of 43.

Several of Putin's cronies have mysteriously lost their lives since the start of the Ukraine war.

Oil tycoon Ravil Maganov, 67, plummeted to his death from the sixth-floor window of a Moscow hospital on September 1.

In July, businessman Yuri Voronov, 61, with ties to gas giant Gazprom was found floating in his swimming pool with a gunshot wound to the head at his home in St Petersburg. None of the deaths has been treated as murder.



attacks in the case of a war with Nato', the MoD added.

Now dissent in Moscow is growing. One of Putin's own MP's Mikhail Sheremet added his voice to criticism from military experts calling on the Kremlin strongman to start conscripting troops into the war. Without full mobilisation, transferring to a military footing, including the economy, we will not achieve the proper results,' he said.

And nearly 50 regional politicians have signed a petition calling on their leader to resign over his botched campaign in Ukraine.

Ukraine slammed Berlin yesterday for its failure to deliver Leopard tanks and Marder fighting vehicles despite repeated pleas from Kyiv. It claimed chancellor Olaf Scholz had repeatedly broken promises on arms. 'Not a single rational argument on why these weapons cannot be supplied, only abstract fears and excuses,' foreign minister Dmytro Kuleba said.

'refusing to fight'

Brothers
in arms...
comfort for
a wounded
comrade

TWO months ago, my work as a conflict journalist took me to Kharkiv in north-eastern Ukraine. Over a million people once called it home – but today it is known as 'the city of broken windows'.

Now largely deserted, many of its buildings had been pulverised by the relentless Russian bombardment.

In the teeth of Vladimir Putin's inhumanity, the Ukrainians I spoke to remained optimistic that they would prevail. And yes, their courage was humbling; but even so, few of them perhaps foresaw how swiftly events would unfold around Kharkiv.

Over the past few days, a bold and bravura Ukrainian counter-attack has seen the mass surrender of Russian troops throughout the Kharkiv region.

In a Ukrainian lightning-strike, its forces have liberated village after village, reclaiming what President Zelensky says is an astonishing 2,317 sq miles of territory – an area roughly the size of Lincolnshire.

Unfolding just 12 miles from the Russian border, it represents a stunning blow both to Moscow's prestige and its military planning. So what should we make of Russian troops simply fleeing, leaving behind their Soviet-era military hardware, the evidence that they have been using Iranian-supplied drones, and their charred and abandoned tanks?

And what should we make of reports that so many Russian soldiers have recently been captured – including a large number of officers – that Ukraine is running out of space to hold them? Well, some of this may be propaganda. But there is no question that these latest developments in and around Kharkiv are a disaster for Putin. Even his Kremlin lickspittles have been struggling to spin the news into anything positive.

Yesterday, Russia's military leaders admitted their troops had left three key cities – Balakliya, Izyum and Kupiansk, all in the Kharkiv province.

It was an acknowledgment that would have been unthinkable three months ago, just like the remarkable proclamation by a politician on Russian state-sponsored TV on Monday evening.

Ukraine would never be defeated, declared Boris Nadezhdin, and Putin had been misled by his officials. As such, he continued, peace talks were the only way forward.

AS with anything spouted from Russia's slavishly Putinite media, we cannot take Nadezhdin's comments at face value. It is possible they were a Kremlin-approved ploy to test the waters of public opinion.

Nonetheless, that peace talks are being openly mooted at all in Russia is highly significant. Even the Kremlin's army of online trolls – typing regime propaganda in chat rooms and forums across the internet – have begun to whisper of withdrawal.

All of this suggests a genuine tipping-point in this torrid conflict. Ensconced in his bunker, Putin must be feeling the pressure. The dictator knows that what limited gains his army has made over the past

A genuine tipping point – so could a cornered Putin now lash out?

COMMENTARY
By David Patrikarakos



six months have come at a terrible cost. He could barely have imagined the scale of the losses his troops have suffered.

Of the original 200,000-strong force mustered by the Kremlin for the invasion in February, the Pentagon has estimated that up to 80,000 have been killed or wounded.

That's tens of thousands of soldiers sent home in body bags or on stretchers, rather than parading in victory through Kyiv. Now to this grim toll the Russian propaganda machine is having to add desertion and retreat.

The big question, however, is what Putin will do next. None of his options is ideal. His preferred tactic – simply ignoring information that he does not like – will no longer do.

Putin's second option is to continue to lie, claiming that his withdrawal from the Kharkiv region is a 'regrouping' aimed at focusing troops in the Luhansk and Donetsk regions in Ukraine's east. That might suffice as an excuse – but not for long.

Third, he will do what the Russian military always does when it finds itself in a tight corner – take it out on the civilian population. This was the tactic Putin deployed so devastatingly in Syria, when Russian forces pulverised the city of Aleppo into near oblivion.

The 'Aleppo-isation' of Ukrainian cities in the south

and east is already well under way. Russian missiles have pounded the infrastructure in Kharkiv so relentlessly that large parts of the remaining civilian population are now without water and electricity.

Putin does not blanch at such brazen war crimes, and there is already a mountain of evidence of mass graves and torture in areas of Ukraine freed from the Russians. I have no doubt that more atrocities will surface in Kharkiv.

President Zelensky has said that given a choice of living under Putin's boot or not having water and electricity, his people would choose the latter.

Of course, Putin retains one final chilling threat: the use of nuclear weapons, whose deployment he has threatened from the start of the conflict.

The White House takes this possibility seriously, noting that every Russian military exercise of an invasion of the Baltic states has involved a nuclear scenario.

But I think it is the least likely course of action. Putin may be a despot, but he is a pragmatic one. He knows that unleashing the first nuclear missiles on the world since 1945 would cross a terrible line. Should he do so, even Germany, so reliant on Russian gas, would refuse to accept it. That would plunge the Russian economy into bankruptcy: a collapse as total as that suf-

fered by the Soviet Union in 1990, a moment that Putin regards as the biggest catastrophe in Russian history.

And even a small 'tactical battlefield' nuke would be likely to cause fallout in neighbouring countries, possibly including Poland or the Baltic states, all Nato members.

The alliance would, in that instance, have no choice but to respond militarily, effectively marking the start of World War Three.

PUTIN doesn't want Armageddon – and nor do his generals. They, we must hope, would step in if he ever tried to lash out with nuclear weapons.

So let's not get ahead of ourselves. There have been many false dawns marking the end of this filthy war, and still the fighting rages.

Nonetheless, the past few days have offered us the most heartening news to emerge from the conflict in months.

The liberation of much of Kharkiv is, too, a timely rejoinder to the siren voices of the Corbynista Left, who warned that the West's decision to arm Ukrainian fighters would only prolong the war and lead to more civilian deaths.

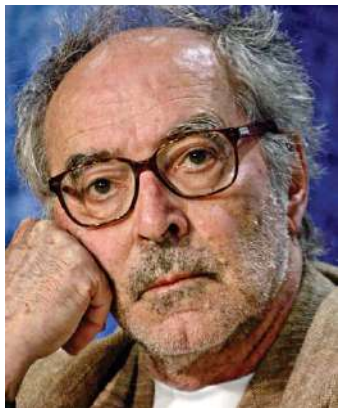
These appeasers have been among us since the first days of the war, urging Ukraine – and us – to surrender.

Thank God we ignored them. Today they look like the fools they are.

■ David Patrikarakos is a Contributing Editor at UnHerd and the author of *War In 140 Characters: How Social Media Is Reshaping Conflict In The Twenty-First Century*

Surrender: Russian troops lie face down in front of Ukrainian forces in Kharkiv

Giant of French cinema, Jean-Luc Godard, dies in assisted suicide at 91



Rebel: Jean-Luc Godard

Mail Foreign Service

DIRECTOR Jean-Luc Godard, the enfant terrible of French New Wave cinema, died by assisted suicide yesterday aged 91.

Godard's partner, Anne-Marie Mieville, 76, said he died peacefully and surrounded by his loved ones at his home in the Swiss town of Rolle on Lake Geneva.

Relatives said the French-Swiss filmmaker, who blew up the conventions of cinema in the 1960s, had made the decision to end his life. He had spoken about doing so many times.

'He was not ill, he was simply exhausted,' a family source told French newspaper Liberation. 'He therefore decided to end it completely. It was his decision



Breaking moulds: Godard with actress Brigitte Bardot during filming for 1963's Contempt

and it was important for him that it be known.'

Godard, who has more than 100 titles to his name, inspired filmmakers from Martin Scorsese to Quentin Tarantino decades after his Sixties heyday.

He shot his first film, 1960 gangster romance Breathless, on the streets of Paris with a hand-held camera, using a shopping trolley for panning shots.

Godard continued to thumb his nose at Hollywood and an older generation of French filmmakers by breaking all the rules again in 1963's Contempt with Brigitte Bardot, followed by Pierrot Le Fou two years later.

He rejected conventional narrative style and instead used frequent jump-cuts that mingled philosophical discussions with action scenes. French president

Emmanuel Macron described Godard as 'the most iconoclastic of the New Wave directors' who 'invented a resolutely modern, intensely free art form'.

On Twitter, Bardot described him as one of 'the last great star creators'.

Twice-divorced Godard had lived with Miss Mieville in Switzerland, where assisted suicide can be legal, since the 1970s.

By Liz Hull

LORD Ashcroft today pledges a £50,000 reward to help in the hunt for the killer of nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel.

The Tory peer made the donation via his charity Crimestoppers to help find those responsible for the schoolgirl's murder.

Olivia was shot in the chest when a gunman, who was chasing a convicted burglar and drug dealer, burst into her home, firing indiscriminately.

Her mother Cheryl, 46, was hit in the wrist as she desperately tried to shut her front door, but the bullet also struck her daughter standing behind her.

The youngster was taken to hospital but could not be saved. Neither the gunman nor his target had any links to Olivia's family. The murder in Dovecot, Liverpool, shocked the nation.

So far Merseyside Police have arrested nine people in connection with her death, including a 36-year-old and 34-year-old on suspicion of murder. But all have been released on bail and no one has been charged.

Lord Ashcroft, chairman of Crimestoppers, said: 'Olivia's murder has shocked us all, which is why I have made this personal offer of up to £50,000 available via Crimestoppers to help get justice for Olivia's family and friends.'

'What happened is truly unac-

Lord Ashcroft's £50,000 reward to catch gunman who killed Olivia



Shot dead: Olivia Pratt-Korbel

ceptable and I say to anyone who has information that can help catch the killer to come forward completely anonymously.'

Crimestoppers said the new appeal was aimed at those in the community who have been too scared to come forward.

The £50,000 reward is being offered for any information that results in a conviction in connection with Olivia's murder.

On Monday police searched West Derby Golf Club in the city for two guns they believe were used in the attack.

Olivia's funeral is to take place tomorrow at St Margaret Mary's Church in Dovecot.

Mick Duthie, director of operations at Crimestoppers, appealed to relatives of the gunman for information.

He said: 'Nobody will know you

contacted us, and you will be doing the right thing for Olivia, her family, friends and the wider community across Liverpool who are still trying to come to terms with this tragedy.'

Detective Chief Superintendent Mark Kameen, leading the murder hunt, has vowed to leave 'no stone unturned' in his bid to catch Olivia's killer.

Since her death, classmates at St Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School have been sharing memories of Olivia and receiving counselling, said headteacher Rebecca Wilkinson.

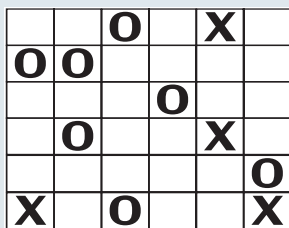
Anyone with information can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or crimestoppers-uk.org.

KUROSU

EVERY day in the Mail you can play Kurosus, the most addictive brainteaser since Sudoku. There are only two rules:

- 1: Fill in each space with either a nought or a cross so there are no more than two consecutive noughts or crosses in any row or column. Important note: diagonals don't count.
- 2: Each row and column must contain three noughts and three crosses.

Solution on Mail Puzzles back page



Today's difficulty rating ★★☆☆

PLAY more Kurosus and 47 puzzles like them every day on your smartphone or tablet with the Mail Digital Edition, your Mail newspaper on your screen. Get a trial offer today at mailpuzzles.co.uk

■ Daily Mail Kurosus Volume 1 out now! Order for £6.29 (RRP £8.99) from mailshop.co.uk/ books or call 020 3308 9193. Free p&p on orders over £20.



September 14, 2022

ON THIS DAY

FROM THE DAILY MAIL ARCHIVE

SEPTEMBER 14, 1994

ACTOR Johnny Depp demolished his New York hotel room in a drunken rage yesterday as his girlfriend Kate Moss tried in vain to calm him. He had been drinking heavily before his wrecking spree at 5am. He was charged with criminal mischief and locked up.



SEPTEMBER 14, 2001

IAIN DUNCAN SMITH was elected Tory leader last night by a convincing margin and immediately vowed to create an effective Opposition to the Government.

The deeply-euro-sceptic Right-winger defeated former Chancellor Kenneth Clarke by 60 per cent to 40 per cent after a bitter and divisive three-month battle.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

RENZO PIANO, 85. The Italian architect designed London's Shard and the Pompidou Centre in Paris. The son of a builder said: 'My real love was the building site. For a little boy it is a marvellous place. Eventually, you become an architect but at heart you are still a builder — it's under your skin.'

JESSICA BROWN FINDLAY, 33. The actress from



Berkshire, who made her name playing Lady Sybil Crawley in Downton Abbey, started out as a ballerina, dancing from the age of two, and performed at the Royal Opera House before failed ankle surgery at 18 dashed her dreams. She says that if her acting work dried up, she would open a sandwich shop.

BORN ON THIS DAY

ZOE CALDWELL (1933-2020). The Australian won four Tony awards for her work on Broadway and was described as 'one of the leading classical stage actors of the last century'. When Barry Humphries, who starred with her in Twelfth Night in Melbourne, told her about Edna Everage, a new character he was devising, Caldwell told him he should play her himself.

KATE MILLETT (1934-2017). The U.S. feminist author made her name with the book Sexual Politics. Though massively influential, one of her thesis advisers said reading it was 'like sitting with your testicles in a nutcracker'. She was perhaps best known in the UK for having to deal with a foul-mouthed, drunken lunge from actor Oliver Reed on late-night Channel 4 discussion show After Dark.

ON SEPTEMBER 14...

IN 1891, John Heath of Wolverhampton Wanderers, scored the first penalty kick in the football league.

IN 1901, William McKinley, 25th US President, died eight days after being shot. He was the third of — to date — four sitting Presidents to be assassinated.

WORD WIZARDRY

GUESS THE CORRECT DEFINITION:

Minimony (c2020)

- A) Paying the smallest sum possible.
- B) Small wedding ceremony that is held instead of a larger celebration.
- C) marriage of an extremely young couple.

Answer below.

PHRASE EXPLAINED — Dead of winter: meaning the coldest part of winter; it comes from the 16th-century sense of 'dead time of' meaning the period characterised by lack of any sign of life or activity.

QUOTE FOR TODAY

'Thought is only a gleam in the midst of a long night. But it is this gleam which is everything.'

Henri Poincaré, French mathematician (1854-1912)

JOKE OF THE DAY

WHY can cricketers iron shirts so well? They know how to spot a crease.

Guess The Definition answer: B.

Compiled by ETAN SMALLMAN and ADAM JACOT DE BOINOD

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

1926 – 2022

If you missed out on Friday's Daily Mail, we're giving all readers the opportunity to purchase our Historic Special Edition today



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Joss Stone: I miss Harry

POP star Joss Stone laments that she's lost touch with Prince Harry.

The Devon-raised singer, 35, became so involved with the organisation the Duke of Sussex co-founded to help

African orphans — Sentebale — that she travelled to the continent to see its projects.

'I went to Lesotho for Harry's charity,' she says. 'I love that one and got deep into it. I hope I'll see him again one day.'

■ OSCAR-winner Ben Kingsley plays Salvador Dali in a new film and, I hear, the film has already run into trouble before it's even released. The makers of *Daliland*, due out this week, are being threatened with legal action by the Gala-Salvador Dali Foundation over its historical accuracy. A spokesman for the filmmakers insists they didn't need to speak to anyone as it 'does not incorporate any material protected by copyright'.

Eden



Newly single Jerry eyes up £6m property in Tinseltown

SOME women might cheer themselves up after a sad divorce by splashing out on an expensive pair of shoes or a designer handbag.

With a £250million divorce settlement burning a hole in her pocket, Jerry Hall has greater ambitions.

I hear the Texan model, and now ex-Mrs Rupert Murdoch, has been eyeing up properties in Tinseltown.

Hall, 66, was spotted looking at empty shops in West Hollywood. Dressed in a baby-blue jumper with navy trousers and carrying a light brown handbag, the ex of Rolling Stones singer Sir Mick Jagger is pictured inspecting a former antiques showroom, on the market for around £6million.

Hall, who wore a pair of brown sunglasses, admired the 6,000 sq ft site from the outside, peered in through the windows and took a few photographs on her phone. She then took down the details of the estate agent in charge of the property before walking away.

The building was the main showroom of John Nelson Antiques, which was founded in 1965. The property was listed on the market earlier this year.

The firm sold high-end European antiques, chandeliers and accessories around the world. It's not clear why Hall would be interested in buying a commercial property. Her spokesman declined to comment.

Hall, who has four children from a 23-year relationship with Jagger, parted ways with Murdoch, 91, after he ended their marriage via email in June.

She filed for divorce in July in



Los Angeles, and Murdoch was served papers as he boarded a plane in the UK after attending his granddaughter's wedding.

A deal was struck quickly and announced last month.

A joint statement confirmed the divorce, saying: 'They remain good friends and wish each other the best for the future.'

Hall was first spotted with Murdoch in 2015 and the couple married in Fleet Street, London, in 2016.

The divorce settlement is thought to have awarded her two houses and up to £250million, according to sources. However, insiders close to four-times-wed Murdoch insist the figure is nearer £50million.

Hall was seen in good spirits last month as she landed in Los Angeles from Farnborough in Hampshire with her daughter Georgia May Jagger, 30. They appeared to disembark from Murdoch's Gulfstream jet, suggesting the couple remain on friendly terms.

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Brian May relives his day of royal high anxiety

QUEEN guitarist Brian May recalls he was terrified when he played God Save The Queen solo live on the roof of Buckingham Palace during the Queen's Golden Jubilee Celebrations — and that he broke royal protocol when she subsequently didn't recognise him.

'It was very, very frightening,' he admits of the live televised performance in 2002. '[I thought] if I mess up God Save The Queen in front of a billion people [on TV], that will be what I am [remembered] for the rest of my life — the guy who messed up.'

Happily, he didn't — and a few weeks

later was presented to the monarch along with fellow guitar legends, Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page and Jeff Beck.

'There was a silence. And of course, protocol says you're not allowed to open a conversation with the monarch, but I thought, someone has to say something.'

'So I said, "Very happy to meet you, Ma'am — I'm the guy who was standing on your roof." And she said, "Oh, that was you, was it?"'

Her Majesty did invite him to her Platinum Jubilee bash nevertheless.

Confidential



TV adventurer laid low by a scooter on his hols

HE HAS walked the length of the Nile and the Himalayas, and been embedded with Iraqi troops fighting ISIS, but Levison Wood has been defeated by a scooter.

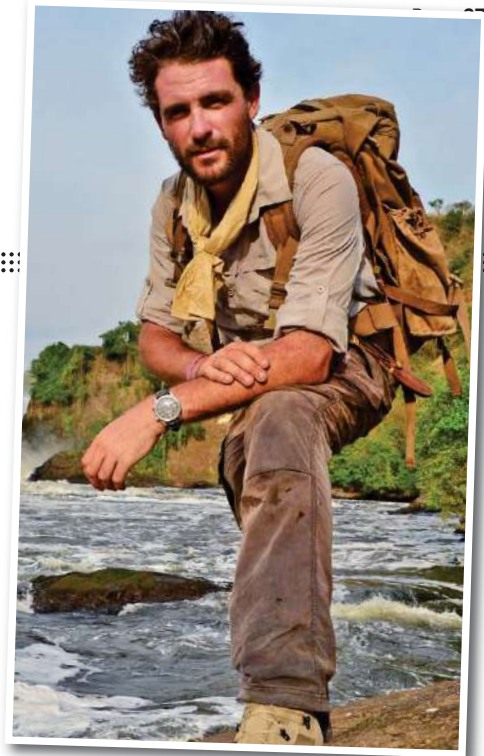
I hear the TV adventurer, 40, is recovering after being seriously injured in a road accident overseas.

'Second time in emergency care this year, and not how I'd expected to end a holiday in Greece,' the former Army officer laments. 'Still, it could have

been a lot worse, so I'm grateful for that, at least.

'Fractured tibia and ankle, which required a big operation, so that'll be my third limb filled with metal. Stay off the scooters on holiday, kids.'

Dashing Wood told me a while back that he was struggling in the daunting world of contemporary dating. He added: 'I'm looking for a woman with a sense of adventure and a sense of fun — I'm not shallow.'



■ WE NEVER heard this in public, but the Queen was a gifted impressionist. Sir William Heseltine, her long-serving private secretary, says she was 'an excellent mimic'. She did impressions of everyone from former Russian president Boris Yeltsin to the chambermaid with a Middlesbrough twang who discovered intruder Michael Fagan in the royal bedchamber in 1982: 'Ooh, bloody 'ell Ma'am, what's 'e doin' 'ere?'

PRINCESS SURPRISE FORM P

AS AN MP and, until last week a minister, Greg Hands has visited plenty of schools.

Every single time, at least one child asked if he had met the Queen. 'Once, I turned the tables and asked the class if any of them had met the Queen,' he reveals.

'All of them put their hands up. I didn't notice until much later that Princess Charlotte was in the class.'

The seven-year-old was a pupil at Thomas's School in Battersea, London, before she started at Lambrook prep school in Berkshire last week.

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Will the energy price cap freeze

By **Helena Kelly**
and **Fiona Parker**

FOR months, panic about spiralling energy costs has been building. Experts spent the summer warning of a 'winter of discontent', with the average household bill first predicted to top £3,000, then £4,000, £5,000 and even £6,000.

So when Liz Truss stood up in the House of Commons last Thursday to unveil an unprecedented £150 billion energy support package, there was palpable relief.

Consumer expert Martin Lewis declared it would help 'millions if not tens of millions' heat their homes, while Citizens Advice chief executive Dame Clare Moriarty said the Prime Minister had 'hit the brakes' on spiralling costs.

We were told that from October 1, bills would be frozen at £2,500 for two years. But what does this mean in practice?

Prior to the announcement, customers were at the mercy of the energy price cap, set by industry watchdog Ofgem. This was predicted to rise from £1,971 a year to £3,549 in October.

Overnight, the new Government slashed this figure by roughly £1,000 and insulated households from future rises.

However, confusion remains.

Many customers are still unaware how the new cap will affect their bills. And those who have gambled on fixed tariffs risk being left paying more than the trumpeted £2,500 figure.

What's more, campaigners point out that just over 12 months ago, the cap was £1,277. So even after last week's announcement, energy bills have still doubled in a year.

It's left struggling families frantically asking what they should do now to make sure they get the full benefit of the price freeze and keep costs as low as possible.

Here, Money Mail answers your most pressing questions about the new cap.

How much will I be charged now?

IT IS important to remember that the new Energy Price Guarantee does not cap your bills. Instead, it limits the maximum amount suppliers can charge per unit of energy used.

One unit or kilowatt hour (kWh) is the equivalent of turning the oven on for 30 minutes. And from October 1, the average unit price for customers paying by direct debit will be limited to 34p/kWh for electricity and 10.3p/kWh for gas.

The £2,500 headline figure is what ministers have calculated the average household will pay each year under its new rules.

It is designed to save customers around £1,000 on what they would have otherwise paid under Ofgem's cap. However, exact costs will depend on usage. A house or flat with just one or two occupants will see its average annual bills hit £1,731 from October, according to analysis of Office for National Statistics (ONS) data by Interactive Investor. This is up from £1,365 currently.

Meanwhile, a medium house with

two or three people will cost £2,500 a year under the new price cap, up from £1,971. And a large household with four to five people will see bills rise to £3,471 a year.

But these sums will be partially offset by the Government's £400 energy bills discount. Prior to last week's announcement, former Chancellor Rishi Sunak had already unveiled a package of

support giving all households a monthly discount of £66 up until April. And this is still going ahead. So, in effect, the average household will only pay around £2,100 a year out of their own pocket.

Customers on standard variable tariffs do not have to do anything as the discount will automatically be applied to their bills. Energy costs can also vary depending on

where you live. This is due to a range of factors, including how much energy is bought from generators in your area and the different charges imposed by local

YOUR bill at £2,500

...and what happens if you gambled on a fixed deal? Everything you need to know about the big bailout



distribution networks. Under the new scheme, the unit cap for all households on variable deals will be the same, regardless of where customers live.

Households supplied through networks — systems of insulated pipes which connect multiple homes — were previously unprotected by the price cap. Under the new scheme they will receive the same support as other customers.

Should I ditch my fixed deal?

SOME may have locked into a fixed deal. This will only affect the minority of customers, as 85pc of

the population are now on suppliers' standard variable tariffs. But that still means several million homes will wonder how the new cap will affect their 'fixed' bills.

Some fortunate customers will have locked into cheap tariffs before prices began spiralling.

They will not see any change to their bills if the unit price is below the new levels set for gas and electricity until

their offer expires. However, many others signed up to more expensive fixed deals to avoid even sharper price hikes expected next year.

Earlier this summer, some suppliers were offering tariffs that cost the average household over £4,000. This is more expensive than the price cap but households thought it could save them money in the long run if the price cap had rocketed to £6,000 as feared.

The Government has confirmed those who snapped up fixed deals will be entitled to a rate reduction on their tariff, which is equivalent to the freeze. So fixed rate bills will be reduced by 17p/kWh for electricity and 4.2p/kWh for gas.

It will ensure around 30pc — or £1,000 — is taken off their bills. Suppliers will adjust these tariffs automatically.

However, if you locked into a fixed deal that cost the average household more than £4,000, the reduction will be insufficient to stop you paying more than those on the standard variable tariffs.

You do not have an automatic right to cancel your deal without a penalty — unless you signed up within the past 14 days and are within the cooling off period. And some deals have exit fees as much as £600 for a dual fuel tariff.

Suppliers such as British Gas, E.ON and Octopus do not charge customers fees if they want to

TURN TO NEXT PAGE

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

leave a fixed deal. Gareth Kloet, energy spokesman for GoCompare, adds: 'Energy firms are obliged to inform customers about any of these kind of changes and once this information has been provided you should be able to discuss what your options are with your supplier.'

Can I just pay for the power I use?

MORE than half of households pay their energy bills via monthly direct debit, according to Ofgem.

This means customers can pay the same amount each month. They build credit in the summer — when energy usage is typically lower — which is then used to plug shortfalls in the winter, when bills are higher.

Energy companies prefer this method as they know how much money they will receive each month and do not have to chase payments.

But it's useful for households too, as it means they will not be hit with shock bills over winter.

Yet this payment method can cause confusion. Some customers receive just two bills a year, others quarterly, while four in ten get them monthly.

Justina Miltienyte, head of policy at Uswitch, says: 'This can leave customers in the dark about their actual energy use and how much it is costing them.'

It might then be tempting to ditch the direct debit payments and ask to pay simply for the power you are using, which is monitored by your meter.

Customers who pay this way are usually charged quarterly. But one

My foolproof formula to check bills are right

CATHY FERNLEY is meticulous when it comes to keeping an eye on her energy bills.

On the 25th day of every month, the grandmother peers into the box in her garden where her electricity meter is kept.

After jotting down the figure displayed on the device, Cathy, 67, copies it into a document saved on her laptop.

Once she has subtracted the previous month's reading from the most recent, the former school manager multiplies the result by 30.89p — the sum British Gas charges her for each kilowatt hour of electricity used.

Next, the mother-of-three adds her daily standing charge — 39.8p — after multiplying it by the number of days in the previous month. Finally, 5pc is added for VAT, which brought last month's total to £225.04.

Her gas calculations are even more complicated, because the readings aren't shown in kilowatt

hours and Cathy has to use a formula to work out her monthly costs. For most of us, it would seem too cumbersome a process to repeat on a regular basis.

But Cathy is quite happy to spend ten minutes every month calculating the exact costs of heating her five-bedroom detached home in Hove.

Back in 2016, she and her husband John, 73, were told they owed £1,133 by their previous supplier. It was the first statement the couple had received since signing up to a fixed deal 11 months earlier. And, throughout that period, the provider had never suggested increasing their monthly direct debits of £160.

It took a year before they were able to pay off the balance and the pensioners are now determined to keep their account in credit as a result. Cathy says: 'At least I have an idea of whether we need to increase our direct debit payments or not.'

major pitfall of it is that energy suppliers typically offer discounts of around 6.5pc of the total bill to those who pay by direct debit, according to comparison site GoCompare.

Mr Kloet says: 'There is nothing to stop you ringing your energy supplier and asking to switch to pay by

usage. But you are likely to lose your discount, which could be worth around £10 a month under the current price cap.

'Those who pay by use will inevitably pay more over the winter when energy use increases.'

And Kevin Pratt, energy expert at comparison site Forbes Advisor, says: 'Moving to a pay-by-usage system may seem tempting, however, unless you are drastically cutting your energy usage, winter is the worst time to do this and realistically you will be better off staying on your direct debit payment plan.'

Have standing charges changed?

UNDER the new freeze, around five hours of electric lighting will cost 26p while six hours of central heating costs nearly £10.

But while there is a benefit to keeping an eye on your energy usage, this is limited due to standing charges.

You pay these fees regardless of how much energy you use.

It means that even if you live in the dark you will still pay around 72p a day — or £21 a month.

Daily standing charges for electricity have increased from 45p to 46p under the new cap, while gas has gone from 27p to 28p. This is a major blow for smaller households, as standing charges make up a larger proportion of their bills.

Should I demand a refund?

AT THIS time of the year, households who pay by direct debit are usually in credit — due to a seasonal drop in use. However, April's price cap rise has seen energy costs soar this summer.

It means the number of people with a credit balance has dropped from 11 million to 9 million, according to Uswitch.

Under Ofgem rules, you can ask your supplier for a balance refund at any time, if you are in credit. Generally, it is recommended to keep enough money in credit to cover your next month's bill. Anything over that can be seen as a surplus.

And your energy firm must pay you back, unless it has reasonable grounds not to.

For example, if you are only in credit by a small amount before winter, you may be refused.

Millions were left waiting for payouts when more than two



Picture: DAVID MCHUGH/BRIGHTON PICTURES

Number-cruncher: Cathy knows her exact energy use

dozen energy suppliers went bust last year.

If a firm collapses, the supplier who takes on its customers must refund credit balances. But the energy regulator has no set time frame for this and some customers have been left waiting for months.

Any prepayment meter support?

IF YOU are on a prepayment meter, the Energy Price Guarantee will be applied to the rate you pay for each unit of energy.

It means the money you load on to your meter will last longer than it would have otherwise.

As was always the case, these customers will still be charged at a higher rate than other customers. Suppliers say this is because there is more admin involved in managing these accounts. But last night a spokesman was unable to tell Money Mail exactly how much these customers would pay for gas and electricity.

Is there relief for businesses?

BUSINESSES have never benefited from the Ofgem price cap — meaning many were left at risk of catastrophic bills.

The Government says it will implement a new six-month scheme for businesses and other non-domestic energy users such

as charities and public sector organisations. It has also committed to a review in three months' time to assess whether support should be targeted to those most in need.

And there will be 'ongoing, focused support' to vulnerable industries beyond the six-month mark. But the details are light so far.

Will there be more help?

THE Government is expected to deliver a mini budget this month, No 10 confirmed yesterday — though a date has not been announced.

There has been speculation that this could include a slash to VAT, which is currently charged at 5pc on domestic fuel bills.

The saving to the customer would depend on how much energy they use, what tariff they are on and which provider they are with.

However, consumer expert Martin Lewis has calculated that slashing the VAT combined with the £400 energy discount would bring energy bills to around the same figure they are now.

He wrote on Twitter yesterday: 'That sounds like the type of rabbit a new Chancellor may want to pull out of his hat.'

Households are also entitled to a range of support such as the Warm Homes Discount and Cold Weather Payments.

Find out more at: helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk.

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By **Fiona Parker**
and **Adele Cooke**

THE Queen's death last Thursday marked the end of an era in British history. And as millions reflect on her momentous life, many are keen to secure keepsakes and collectibles.

Google searches for 'Royal memorabilia' rocketed by 100pc on Friday morning as newspapers packed with moving obituaries hit the stands.

The Royal Mint website crashed after customers flocked to snap up commemorative coins, with more than 6,390 online shoppers waiting in a queue on Thursday evening.

By 11am on Friday, several were already out of stock, including the £3,575 gold proof Elizabeth II Trafalgar Five Pounds minted in 2005 to mark the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar.

And a £5 coin celebrating the Queen's 70-year reign, which was previously priced at £13, was sold out last night.

Searches for 'Queen Elizabeth mugs' also doubled over the weekend, according to Google data. And nearly 150 commemorative cups marking all manner of royal occasions over the years were listed on auction site eBay on Monday alone.

Meanwhile, copies of the Daily Mail's historic edition published last Friday are on sale for up to £99.99.

Luxury department store Harrods also says sales of Paddington Bears have increased, after mourners began placing them outside Buckingham Palace following the Queen's sketch with the famous bear earlier this summer. The 42cm-tall soft toy is currently out of stock.

Pauline Maclaran, professor of marketing and consumer research at Royal Holloway, University of London, says: 'There's all the high-end collectors' pieces and then, of course, you have the huge range of keyrings, mugs, plaques and flags. I think that this is part of wanting to be involved in the historic moment and to mark the occasion.'

But it does not take long to uncover a huge range of prices being offered by different vendors.

One limited-edition Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Barbie doll was priced at £4,995 on eBay earlier this week. Yet another was bought from the same site on Monday for £461.

Laura Suter, head of personal finance at investment firm AJ Bell, says: 'If someone is currently buying up royal memorabilia purely with profit in mind, they should proceed with caution.'

'There's no guarantee all items will rise in value and it's very tricky to predict what will see a significant increase in worth and what will maintain value, or even fall.'

Sales websites such as eBay and Gumtree are awash with crockery, handkerchiefs and brooches commemorating royal events.

AND it is thought that as much as £281 million was spent on souvenirs and keepsakes during the Platinum Jubilee this year, according to earlier estimates by the Centre for Retail Research.

Auctioneers Reeman Dansie have sold hundreds of lots relating to the Royals over the years. In 2019 a pair of 9ct gold and enamel cufflinks, which the late Queen had gifted to a senior member of her royal household, were bought for £2,900.

James Grinter, managing director of the Colchester-based firm, says: 'Personal gifts, cards and letters are worth far more than mass-produced mugs and crockery.'

'Members of the Royal Family will usually give gifts to retiring staff or members of the public who have assisted them in some way — such as a helpful stationmaster.'

Signing autographs is against royal protocol. However, Queen Elizabeth II wrote many letters and cards.

A Christmas card signed by the monarch could be worth up to £2,000, according to Mr Grinter. Letters signed by 'Lilibet', a nickname used by the monarch's close friends and family, would be

Commemorative coins are selling out. Jubilee mugs have quadrupled in price. And even sales of Paddington Bear are soaring as the nation honours the Queen

The RUSH for royal keepsakes



£104

£13

Rising value: An Emma Bridgewater mug and a coin marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Top, a Paddington Bear toy

particularly valuable. But any card with her signature posted after 1960 would be worth less as it was likely signed by a machine.

While few can boast of personal gifts and correspondence, some mugs could still prove valuable.

Around 1,000 limited-edition 'loving cups' were made by ceramic manufacturer Royal Doulton to mark Queen Elizabeth's coronation in 1953.

David Broom, of Keys Auctioneers, says: 'While most mugs bought during the coronation will sell for around £20 maximum, these cups can go for up to £400 because there are fewer of them.'

Other crockery made by popular

British brands has also seen a surge in value. On Monday, an Emma Bridgewater 'God Save The Queen' Jubilee mug sold for £104 on eBay, despite retailing at £22 a few months ago.

However, Mr Broom warns that even those who have had a brush with royalty may not be able to sell an item for its true value, unless they can prove that it is authentic.

A woman once showed him a china cup and saucer which was given to her father by the late Queen Mother while he was on duty as a police officer one Christmas Eve at Sandringham.

Mr Broom says: 'It was a lovely

P.S. Friday's historic Daily Mail is going for £100 on eBay — but you can get a copy **PLUS two royal magazines for £4.99!**

SEE PAGE 35 FOR DETAILS



Pictures: ROYAL MINT/PA

story, but it looked like any other cup and saucer and there was no way of proving it was given to him by a member of the Royal Family.

'It had great sentimental value for the police officer's daughter, but the set would not have made much at auction.'

Many royal enthusiasts also enjoy collecting stamps which document a monarch's reign.

Searches for 'Queen Elizabeth stamps' were up by 85pc on Friday morning, Google data reveals.

James Coulbault, of stamp dealer Stanley Gibbons, says the firm saw a surge in demand during the Jubilee celebrations.

He adds: 'We are regularly fielding requests for the original coronation

stamps, featuring the portraits by Edmund Dulac and Dorothy Wilding, from 1953 and the first set of stamps to feature the Arnold Machin portrait from 1967, which is now synonymous with British stamps.'

Royal memorabilia tends to increase in value once the members of the family they pertain to have died.

However, interest in items relating to King Charles III and the Queen Consort have also risen.

A bone china mug marking the couple's wedding in 2005 sold for £46.61 on Friday, while similar items have sold for between £1 and £15 earlier this year.

f.parker@dailymail.co.uk

Sally Sorts It



Our fearless readers' champion

Dear Sally

I WAS secretary of the Cheltenham Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (Grand Lodge of England) Club And Institute from about 2005 until it was closed in May 2014.

It was essentially a social and networking club and we held events to raise money for charities.

A special meeting of all 46 ordinary members was held where it was decided, due to cash problems, to close the club and sell the building and furniture to pay creditors and redundancies and share the proceeds between members.

During the closure, we contacted our bank, HSBC, to change the account address to mine as the building the club occupied was to be demolished.

In June 2021, I received a letter from HSBC addressed to the club informing us that following a review it owes us £3,361.77 plus compensatory interest of £2,869.83 — a total of £6,231.60. In January this year, I went into the local branch to sort out how this sum could be paid. I was given a phone number to call but I couldn't get through.

I tried to get help to resolve this dilemma for several months until, finally, I was told that the cheque must be made out to the social club, which no longer exists.

It was suggested I open a new account in the club's name online. I encountered many difficulties, including answering a question on how many staff the club would have and what its turnover would be, so I stopped. It seems I cannot open an account without lying.

No one in HSBC will help me. I would gladly forget all about it but if I did and the members found out, I do not know what they would say. And anyway, with the cost of living pressures, I am sure some of them would appreciate their share. It's driving me crazy.

C.S., Cheltenham.

A BANK error in your favour is desirable in the game of Monopoly. But in your case, it has become a bureaucratic nightmare.

You were forced to embark upon a tricky game of getting hold of the money owed by HSBC and then dividing it between 46 members — or in some cases, their loved ones, as you discovered 11 have sadly passed away.

This headache all came about because between 2005 and 2020, HSBC applied incorrect charges to its community current accounts.

I asked HSBC what could be done. Initially it asked you to arrange a meeting of as many surviving ex-members as could be mustered, where it could be agreed you could receive the money — with the minutes forwarded to the bank. The bank suggested this could be done by Zoom.

But you rightly said this was not feasible. Instead, you put together a letter and arranged for it to be signed by five surviving members, all attesting to your honesty as the long-standing secretary of the club and agreeing for you to receive the compensation for distribution. Unbelievably, the bank told you this was not enough. I stepped in again and said I felt you had gone above and beyond to get this problem solved.

Eventually, the bank accepted the signed note and paid you the money. You then requested a cheque book so you could deal out the 45 payments of £135.

When it arrived, you found it contained just 25 cheques, so you had to send off for another.

You said you would include a letter with each cheque explaining the background to the recipients,

including the loved-ones of the members who had passed away.

I congratulate you on your endeavours, though I suspect much of your own share of the distribution has been gobbled up in phone and stamp bills.

An HSBC UK spokesman said: 'We are sorry C.S. and the Cheltenham RAOB Club faced difficulty accessing a refund from the bank.'

'When an organisation that is due a refund does not have an open account to accept payment, we require legal evidence that the residual assets of that organisation can be transferred elsewhere.'

'Following C.S. providing us with

sufficient evidence, we have now paid the money into his account.'

UP UNTIL early this year, I chose to defer my state pension for a period that amounted to more than 12.5 years.

In January, I contacted the Department for Work and Pensions to arrange finally taking my weekly state pension and collecting the deferred lump sum.

I have successfully received the pension, but have not heard about my lump sum.

A pension forecast two years ago suggested I would receive £78,000 before tax. I have passed

all the necessary security checks and phoned the DWP on a weekly basis but cannot get any answers and promised call-backs never materialise.

I desperately need this money now, due to some financial difficulties as well as struggling with day-to-day rising costs, including energy bills.

S.F., Tarbert.

WHEN you reached state retirement age more than a dozen years ago, you were in the fortunate position not to require the state pension, as you had income from an NHS pension and your husband



Illustration: ANDY WARD

HSBC error cost our social club £6,200 but our refund's lost in a red-tape maze

SCAM WATCH

BEWARE fraudsters offering free mobile upgrades ahead of the new iPhone launch.

The crooks pose as telecoms providers.

Customers are often asked to pass a fake security check. But this is an attempt to harvest your personal details, fraud prevention firm Cifas warns.

The number of identity fraud cases involving telecoms products jumped 17pc in the first six months, with those aged between 31 and 50 hit hardest.

Amber Burrigade of Cifas, says: 'Criminals are always ready to take advantage of new product launches.' If in doubt, hang up and forward scam text messages to 7726.'

was also earning. However, you told me that more recently your situation has changed.

You sadly lost your husband four years ago and you now live with your daughter. Money is tight and you, like so many others, are facing sky-high electricity bills, the latest being £2,000. You decided it was time to claim your state pension.

After sending off a number of emails, it seemed to you that your inquiries were falling on deaf ears, so I stepped in to find out what had happened to your lump sum.

This prompted action from the deferral team, which soon afterwards contacted you to say the money was finally on its way.

Even better news was that it amounts to £89,000 before tax. The net amount of £71,500 will soon be in your account.

A spokesman for the DWP says: 'We apologise for the delay in finalising S.F.'s claim. We have now issued her lump sum and have spoken with her to confirm this.'

You told me that you are delighted and thanked me for my involvement.

.....
 ■ WRITE to Sally Hamilton at Sally Sorts It, Money Mail, Northcliffe House, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT or email sally@daily-mail.co.uk — include phone number, address and a note addressed to the offending organisation giving them permission to talk to Sally Hamilton. Please do not send original documents as we cannot take responsibility for them. No legal responsibility can be accepted by the Daily Mail for answers given.

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT

MY MUM recently died and my father was very upset to receive a letter from her annuity provider LV= demanding he repay £60.70 the day after her funeral. The firm even got his name wrong.

It seems very insensitive to send this out so soon after he lost his wife of 66 years.

G.S., London.

A SPOKESMAN for the firm says it is contractually entitled to request the overpayment's return but apologises the letter was incorrectly addressed and for any distress caused by its timing. LV= has waived the £60.70 repayment and paid £100 in compensation.

MY SON bought a £160 pair of trainers he'd seen on Instagram for his 18th birthday.

He paid by bank transfer but, despite the money leaving his account, the seller claimed it had not received the money.

It is clear he fell victim to a scam but his bank, Monzo, has refused a refund.

G.C., London.

A MONZO spokesman says it upholds its decision not to repay the money because the customer did not take reasonable steps to verify the transaction and ignored scam

warnings. Your son's next option is to complain to the Financial Ombudsman.

I HAD to cancel a trip to America in April as I was diagnosed with an intracranial aneurysm and advised not to travel.

I made a travel insurance claim and Admiral said it would contact me within 30 days. It has been four months and I still have not heard back.

J.E., Oxfordshire.

AN ADMIRAL spokesman apologises for the delay and says it had not received the documents needed to validate the claim. The firm has now paid the full £669.50 claim along with an additional £84 goodwill payment.

SHAMED: COMPANIES THAT MAKE IT HARDEST TO FIND HELPLINES

HOW LONG IT TOOK TO FIND THE NUMBER	WHAT WE DID TO TRACK IT DOWN
BRITISH AIRWAYS  1 min 6 secs	4 clicks + 3 scrolls
BARCLAYS  1 min 56 secs	2 clicks + 2 scrolls
British Gas  24 secs	1 click + 6 scrolls
BT  59 secs	3 clicks + 0 scrolls
PayPal  35 secs	4 clicks + 3 scrolls
Santander  1 min 7 secs	4 clicks + 2 scrolls
SCOTTISHPOWER  40 secs	5 clicks + 2 scrolls
sky  1 min 47 secs	2 clicks + 3 scrolls
TSB  22 secs	2 clicks + 2 scrolls
octopusenergy  40 secs	2 clicks + 8 scrolls
Virgin media  10 secs	2 clicks + 2 scrolls
amazon  UNABLE TO FIND ONE (gave up – 2 mins)	



Picture: (posed by model) GETTY/ISTOCKPHOTO



By **Helena Kelly** and **Tilly Armstrong**

MAJOR banks, telecoms giants, energy suppliers and travel firms are burying their telephone numbers on obscure pages of their websites to deter customers from calling for help.

Many companies are instead urging people to use 'live chat' services or demanding complaints are made via social media sites such as Twitter.

A Money Mail audit this week found that in one of the worst examples, customers have to click through six pages on telecoms giant BT's website to find its phone number. The Telecoms giant says this can be reduced to three clicks — but only if you know exactly the right boxes to tick in the endless options and drop-down menus.

It also took a reporter nearly two minutes to locate contact information for Barclays and Sky. And we could not find a number at all for Amazon.

Many — including British Airways, Santander and Scottish Power — have messages online advising customers not to bother ringing at all due to high wait times.

Some firms even make customers fill out an online form or answer a series of questions before revealing their helpline number.

Our experiment used a desktop computer but experiences may vary between devices.

Money Mail is calling for a new law to force big businesses to pick up their phones within ten minutes — or face big fines.

Our Pick Up Or Pay Up campaign aims to bring an end to customers being left on hold for hours. It is supported by 34 MPs and is set to be discussed in Parliament after Conservative member Robert Halfon applied for a backbench debate on the issue.

But first, customers must be told the numbers they need to call. We

How sneaky firms HIDE their phone numbers... to stop you calling

audited a range of businesses which are repeatedly named and shamed by readers. Many people said they struggle to even get to the point of being on hold because firms are deliberately making it difficult to find their phone numbers.

PayPal asks users to log in to access contact details — unless they spot a small 'continue as guest' option.

British Airways buries its telephone information at the very bottom of its 'help' page under a drop-down section headed 'All other enquiries'.

Ironically, companies use an icon of a telephone next to their 'con-

tact us' section on websites — despite not giving a number. Instead, websites direct people to their 'live chat' services, or 'Frequently Asked Questions' page.

For example, Sky's website reads: 'Over 90pc of our customers who use our online guides get the help they need before even having to get in touch.'

The Scottish Power website states: 'Call waiting times may be longer than usual.' And Virgin Media says: 'Please only get in touch if you need to.' Barclays advises: 'Talk to us directly through social channels too'.

We found that the quickest way to get a number was often by

searching the 'complaints' section of a website.

It's clear from Money Mail's postbag that this online-heavy approach does not meet everyone's needs. As one reader points out: 'Most companies assume everyone has the internet and a smartphone, and people feel they are being forced online. This unfairly penalises the elderly, who get treated abysmally in this country now.'

Campaigners and politicians have joined our calls for firms to improve customer service.

Consumer expert Martyn James says: 'Now more than ever customers need one-to-one help. But trying to find a number for a

business is like an endurance test. Companies are making it as difficult as possible to find their numbers so that people just give up and don't phone them.

'That is especially unforgivable for the telecoms companies.'

Consumer champion Jane Hawkes adds: 'Customers not only face lengthy waits on hold, but in many instances can't even find company contact details. This is unacceptable.'

Our campaign manifesto is simple: we want the Government to update the Consumer Rights Act 2015 with a statutory instrument — secondary legislation which can make changes to an existing Act of Parliament.

This would give regulators such as Ofgem and Ofcom the power to fine firms who do not answer the phone within ten minutes.

Recently, a similar law was passed in Spain.

Over the summer Money Mail hosted a drop-in event for MPs in Parliament, armed with thousands of letters and coupons of support sent in by readers.

WE ARE also calling for firms to be forced to offer a working phone line service for customers, a callback service if they cannot answer and publish their daily wait times.

A BT spokesman says the company makes it 'very easy' for customers to contact them. Sky says its contact number is 'clearly listed' on its website.

Octopus Energy claims most customers find its number through a Google search and that it comes up straight away, while PayPal says it is 'easier and quicker' if customers log into their account online before ringing.

Virgin Media, Santander, British Airways and Barclays all say that for convenience's sake, they offer a variety of ways for customers to contact them.

British Gas is investing in 500 more call-centre staff to meet increasing demand. Scottish Power says it 'actively encourages' customers to self-serve only so they can get help as quickly as possible.

Amazon operates a chatbox and callback service which customers can access if they enter their number online.

h.kelly@dailymail.co.uk

Fleeced by your mobile

A FEW weeks ago, I left my mobile phone in the back of a taxi. I was laden with bags and had briefly put it on the seat next to me while I paid. By the time I'd realised, the driver had disappeared around the corner.

Oh, the panic. Like so many people, I am lost without my phone. It has all my family and friends' numbers, my personal and work emails and, most alarmingly, my many banking apps.

Fortunately, thanks to Apple's miraculous app Find My iPhone, I was able to get my mobile back.

This clever tool allows you to track on a map where your phone has gone and make it play a sound so someone (the taxi driver in this case) can find it and call a phone number which will flash up.

But the ordeal hammered home just how reliant we have become on these gadgets. It's why I'm militant about backing up my phone so that even if it goes missing, my photos, files and contact details



are safe. I also wrote my husband's number on a piece of paper which I keep in my purse, so I can call him in an emergency.

Then a story posted on Twitter last month really set my alarm bells ringing. Charlotte Morgan described how someone had broken into her gym locker, stolen her smartphone and bank card and gone on an £8,000 spending spree.

When her current account ran dry, the criminal even managed to transfer thousands of pounds from her savings to continue spending.

And the worst part was that her bank, Santander, had refused to refund a penny. It claimed she must have been negligent and kept

her PIN with her debit card — which was, of course, nonsense.

As the Mail reported last Thursday, it has since emerged she is not the only victim. Police are hunting a prolific thief suspected of stealing thousands of pounds from women in gyms across London. One claims to have lost close to £20,000 in an hour and a half.

But just how did this happen? We've always been told crooks can't get into our mobile banking accounts. After all, the phone itself is protected by a passcode. And the apps are secured by facial recognition or fingerprint technology. Well, an investigation

by BBC Radio 4's You And Yours claims to have worked it out.

In order to spend big sums of money using your card, fraudsters need your PIN — which is (some-what unbelievably) available to view in your mobile banking app.

To access this, you would usually need to enter a passcode or unlock it using your face or thumbprint. But if the crook has your card, they can download your mobile banking app onto their phone.

The bank will want to check it's really you doing this, so they will send a text message with a one-time authorisation passcode.

But if the criminal also has your phone, they can see this (even if it is locked), get into your account, change the passwords and, crucially, get their hands on your PIN — all within a few minutes.

Banks need to jump on this glaring security flaw fast. Lots of people keep their mobiles and bank cards in the same place. Few would realise how vulnerable this makes them to fraud.

I also find it hard to believe that the banks — which regularly brag

about their sophisticated fraud detection systems — didn't freeze these victims' cards sooner.

You might expect one unusual transaction to go unnoticed. Yet Charlotte says her card was used to make multiple purchases totalling thousands of pounds at one Apple store — where she has never shopped in her life.

Eventually, under pressure from the Press, Santander agreed to reimburse her. But it again raises serious concerns about why some banks are still so quick to blame the victim and deny refunds.

One lesson I've learned is to change your phone's security settings so messages don't flash up if the device is locked. That way crooks won't be able to see any verification texts sent by your bank. And ensure your phone's SIM card is protected by a password.

In the meantime, perhaps we need to rethink how much personal data we store on phones. As this tale shows, our mobiles have left us worryingly exposed to scammers.

v.bischoff@dailyemail.co.uk

MONEYBEST BUYS



MORTGAGES

LENDER	RATE	DETAILS	DEPOSIT	FEE	CONTACT
TWO-YEAR FIXES					
Barclays	3.68pc	to 30/11/24	40pc	£999	0333 202 7580
Barclays	3.75pc	to 30/11/24	25pc	£999	0333 202 7580
Santander	4.09pc	to 02/12/24	5pc	£0	0800 068 6064
FIVE-YEAR FIXES					
HSBC	3.54pc	to 31/03/28	40pc	£999	0800 494 999
Lloyds	3.65pc	to 30/11/27	25pc	£999	0800 783 3534
Cambridge BS	4.09pc	for five years	5pc	£199	0345 601 3344
BASE-RATE TRACKERS					
NatWest	Base +0.70pc	to 31/01/25	40pc	£995	0800 400 999
Yorkshire BS	Base +0.74pc	to 28/02/25	25pc	£995	0345 166 9510
Nationwide BS	Base +2.29pc	for two years	5pc	£0	0800 302 010
BUY-TO-LET					
Post Office	3.29pc	to 31/12/24	25pc	£495	0800 077 8033
Coventry BS	3.58pc	to 29/02/28	35pc	£1,999	0800 121 8899
Post Office	3.45pc	to 31/12/27	25pc	£1,495	0800 077 8033

... OUR PICK OF THE TOP DEALS



SAVINGS

AL RAYAN BANK ■ Easy access ■ Everyday Saver 3 ■ 2.10pc	AHLI UNITED BANK (UK) ■ Fixed-rate bond ■ One-year fix ■ 3.50pc <i>Through Raisin.co.uk</i>
GATEHOUSE BANK ■ Easy Access Cash Isa ■ 1.75pc	LEEDS BS ■ Fixed-rate cash Isa ■ To October 31, 2023 ■ 2.55pc



CURRENT ACCOUNTS

MOSTLY IN THE BLACK VIRGIN MONEY M PLUS 2.02pc interest on up to £1,000; no min pay-in. ■ New customers who switch can get 25pc cashback up to £160 on supermarket and fuel spends when they switch. 0800 121 7365	NATIONWIDE FLEXDIRECT Get 5pc fixed interest on £1,500 for a year. Min monthly pay in: £1,000+/mth. ■ New customers who switch can get £100. 0800 302 011
CHASE CURRENT ACCOUNT 1pc cashback on purchases for the first 12 months. 5pc paid via its 'round-up' feature. ■ App only. Get 15pc interest on up to £250,000 with linked savings account. No fees on overseas spend or withdrawals. Overdrafts are not available. 0800 376 3333	MOSTLY IN THE RED FIRST DIRECT FIRST ACCOUNT 0pc overdraft to £250. ■ Arranged overdrafts: 0pc up to £250, then 39.9pc variable. Unarranged overdrafts: 39.9pc variable (max £20/mth). New customers can get £20 just by opening the account (or £175 by switching). 0345 610 0100
NATIONWIDE FLEXDIRECT 0pc overdraft for 12 months. ■ The overdraft limit you get (up to £2,750) depends on your credit score. 0800 302 011	

This week you should...

REGISTER for self-assessment if you are submitting a tax return for the first time. You need to sign up by October 5 if filing for the 2021/2022 tax year. Once you're registered, you'll receive a unique taxpayer

reference number, which is needed to submit your return. Register at: gov.uk/register-for-self-assessment. If you did a self-assessment tax return last year then you don't need to register again.



CREDIT CARDS

CASHBACK & PERKS			Amex: 0800 917 8047. Sainsbury's: 0345 606 2172.	
PROVIDER	CARD	APR	PERKS	
American Express	Platinum Cashback Everyday	26 pc	5pc cashback for first three months/max £100. Then 0.5pc back on spending up to £10,000, then 1pc cashback on £10,000+.	
Sainsbury's	Sainsbury's Bank Mastercard	20.9pc	8,000 bonus points on £400+ spend at Sainsbury's/Argos in first 2 months. 2pts per £1 spent at Sainsbury's/Argos until Oct 31; 1pt per £5 spent elsewhere.	
SPENDING			M&S Bank: 0800 997 996. Sainsbury's: 0808 540 5060.	
PROVIDER	CARD	INITIAL RATE	APR	
M&S Bank	M&S Shopping Plus	0 pc for 24 months	21.9 pc	
Sainsbury's Bank	Dual 24 Month Credit Card	0 pc for up to 24 months	21.9 pc	
BALANCE TRANSFERS			Sainsbury's: Apply online. Santander: 0800 912 3123.	
PROVIDER	CARD	BALANCE TRANSFER RATE	FEE	
Sainsbury's Bank	Balance Transfer Credit Card	0 pc for up to 34 months	2.88 pc or 3.88 pc (min £3)	
Santander	Balance Transfer Credit Card	0 pc for 33 months	2.65 pc (min £5)	

Sources: L&C Mortgages, GoCompare, TheEnergyShop.com, Energyhelpline and ONS inflation

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Equity release may involve a home reversion plan or a lifetime mortgage which is secured against your property. Request your personalised illustration to understand the features and risks.

Equity release requires paying off any existing mortgage. Any money released, plus accrued interest, is to be repaid upon death or moving into long-term care. Only if your case completes would a typical fee of £1,995 be payable.

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FANTASTIC FOOD

Mary Berry — Cook & Share, 8pm, BBC2

MARY travels to Bristol, a city that's very dear to her heart: it's where she had her first job and where her late son William studied, and it's currently home to her granddaughter Grace. She begins with a sunrise trip to watch a colourful hot-air balloon display, followed by a 20-course tasting lunch at a Michelin-starred restaurant that embraces the street art that is so synonymous with Bristol. But will she try her hand at spray-painting like the city's famous son Banksy? Of course, Mary will be cooking up her own mouthwatering recipes, too, including Tuscan chicken and a pear and blueberry galette (pictured).



PICK OF TODAY'S TV

SHETLAND, 9PM, BBC1

Prepare yourself for an emotional finale as we find out not only who the killer is but also say goodbye to the taciturn DI Jimmy Perez (Douglas Henshall, pictured), who hangs up his famous peacoat and gives back the keys to his Volvo after seven series, although the hit crime drama will continue without him. 'It will be weird knowing they're shooting an eighth series and I'm not there,' admitted Henshall, 'but I'm not sure what the show is going to be. I hope it works out

and I wish them every success, but it isn't going to be the show I was in. They will have to make a whole other show.' Could Alison 'Tosh' McIntosh (Alison O'Donnell) take up the reigns, or will an outsider — such as Line Of Duty's Martin Compston, whose name has cropped up often in social media chatrooms — be drafted in? But before he goes, there's a race against time to stop the eco-inspired murderer from carrying out one final attack — and the clock is ticking. But perhaps of more importance is the will-the-won't they plotline between Perez and nurse Meg (Lucianne McEvoy), which surely has to be resolved before our Scottish hero drives off into the sunset...



	BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	CHANNEL 4
	6.00 Breakfast (HD) The latest news, sport, business and weather from the BBC's Breakfast team. 10.00 BBC News Special (HD) Further coverage from across the nation following the death of Her Majesty The Queen. 12.00 BBC News at One (HD) The latest national and international stories; Weather 12.50 BBC Regional News; Weather 1.00 Queen Elizabeth II: The Procession to Lying-in-State (HD) Live coverage of the procession as Her Majesty's coffin leaves Buckingham Palace and travels in a slow procession to Westminster Hall, where the Queen will lie in state in the grand hall until 6.30am on the day of the funeral. King Charles and other members of the royal family will walk behind the coffin, which is being carried on a gun carriage of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery, and is expected to reach Westminster at 3.00pm. 4.30 BBC News Special (HD) Further coverage from across the nation following the death of Her Majesty The Queen. 6.00 BBC News at Six; Weather (HD) 6.30 BBC Regional News; Weather 7.00 HM The Queen: Events of the Day (HD) A look back at the day's royal events, the focus of which has been the procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall, where the Queen's coffin now lies in state. 8.30 EastEnders (AD,HD) It's crunch time for Kat as Alfie tries to win her back. Lola tries to help Frankie, but the situation gets worse. 9.00 Shetland (AD,HD) PICK The team race to identify the killer and prevent disaster striking the town. As the investigation draws to a close, Perez faces a life-changing decision. Last in series. 10.00 BBC News at Ten (HD) 11.00 BBC Regional News (Followed by Weather) 11.05 Elizabeth: Her Passions & Pastimes (HD) A special programme remembering the life of Her Majesty The Queen. 12.05 BBC News (HD) BBC1 joins the BBC's rolling news channel through the night.	6.45 Countryfile Summer Diaries (HD) 7.30 Antiques Road Trip (R,HD) 8.15 Gardeners' World (BSL,R,HD) 9.15 Animal Park (R,HD) 10.00 Wanted Down Under (R,HD) 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer (AD,R,HD) Dion Dublin is delighted with the quirky original features he finds in a house in Staffordshire. 12.00 Bargain Hunt (R,HD) Natasha Raskin Sharp presents from Oswestry Showground. 1.00 Best Bakes Ever (HD) A selection of recipes from television chefs. 1.45 Doctors (AD,HD) Al's relief at solving the mystery is short-lived. 2.15 Money for Nothing (HD) Items include an oak serving table and some splash-back glass. 3.00 Escape to the Country (R,HD) Alistair Appleton visits the Perth and Kinross countryside. 3.45 Garden Rescue (R,HD) The team help a family in Loughborough. 4.30 Antiques Road Trip (HD) Raj Bisram and Irita Marriott visit Oxfordshire. 5.15 Pointless (R,HD) Quiz show, hosted by Alexander Armstrong. 6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games (HD) With Rob Deering, Katya Jones, Jayne Middlemiss and Phil Tufnell. 6.30 Unbeatable (HD) Quiz show, hosted by Jason Manford. 7.00 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip (R,HD) Comedian Dom Joly and actor Pauline McLynn are in Lancashire with James Braxton and Philip Serrell, buying antique bamboo and teapots. 8.00 Mary Berry — Cook & Share (AD,HD) PICK Mary shares dishes including shakshuka. 8.30 Nadiya's Everyday Baking (AD,HD) Nadiya Hussain shares the speediest of her bakes, including a marbled ice cream cake. 9.00 Days That Shook the BBC with David Dimbleby (AD,HD) David explores the BBC's relationship with the British people, asking how the BBC can seek to serve its entire audience, amid challenges to its impartiality. Last in series. 10.00 QI (R,HD) Ed Gamble, Lou Sanders and Sindhu Vee join host Sandi Toksvig, who asks questions about the seaside. 10.30 Newsnight (HD) (Followed by Weather) 11.15 The Boys from Brazil: Rise of the Bolsonaros (AD,R,HD) A look at Jair Bolsonaro's campaign for the 2018 presidential election, when he targeted the ever-growing number of Christian evangelicals in the country. 12.15 Ambulance (BSL,R,HD) The crews face a number of category one emergencies, including a baby who is not responding. 1.15 All That Glitters: Britain's Next Jewellery Star (AD,BSL,R,HD) 2.20 This Is BBC2 (HD)	6.00 Good Morning Britain (HD) Morning magazine featuring a lively mix of news and current affairs, plus health, entertainment and lifestyle features. 9.00 Lorraine (HD) Entertainment, current affairs and fashion news, as well as showbiz stories and celebrity gossip. Presented by Lorraine Kelly. 10.00 This Morning (HD) A mix of celebrity chat, lifestyle features, advice and competitions. Including Local Weather. 1.00 News: Queen Elizabeth II — Lying-in-State (HD) Live coverage of the procession of the Queen's coffin from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Hall. King Charles III will lead the procession behind the carriage, which will be draped in the Royal Standard. 6.00 Regional News; Weather (HD) 6.30 News (HD) The latest national and international stories; Weather 7.30 Emmerdale (AD,HD) As Ethan tries to convince Naomi to do the right thing, Kim prepares to reconnect with a much-missed Millie. Can Al and Chas revel in their intimacy? 8.00 Coronation Street (AD,HD) Leanne walks in to hear Toyah confessing to Spider that she lied to the police, and with Kelly by his side, Aadi tells Dev that they are planning to get married in Gretna Green. 9.00 Doc Martin (AD,HD) PICK The surgery is chaotic, with Martin and Louisa both now practising from it. Bert's new business venture with Al does not get off to a good start. 10.00 News (HD) (Followed by Weather) 11.00 Regional News (HD) (Followed by Weather) 11.10 The Young Elizabeth (R,HD) The Queen was brought up in a close and loving family, and this film explores how her early life shaped the woman she would become. 12.10 English Football League Highlights (R,HD) 1.30 Shop: Ideal World (HD) 3.00 For the Love of Britain (AD,BSL,R,HD) 3.25 Unwind with ITV (HD) 4.40 The Masked Dancer (AD,BSL,R,HD)	6.10 Countdown (R,HD) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (AD,R) 7.15 3rd Rock from the Sun (AD,R) 7.40 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD,R) 8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD,R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (AD,R) 9.00 Frasier (AD,R) 9.30 Frasier (AD,R) 10.00 Frasier (AD,R) 10.30 Four in a Bed (R,HD) 11.00 The Great House Giveaway (R,HD) An apprentice plumber and a factory manager transform a dated house in South Wales. 12.00 Channel 4 News Summary (HD) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (HD) Weekday magazine show, hosted by Steph McGovern. 2.10 Countdown (HD) Rick Edwards joins Susie Dent in Dictionary Corner. 3.00 A Place in the Sun (R,HD) Ben Hillman helps social worker Gilly to find a retirement home in Portugal. 4.00 Chateau DIY (AD,HD) Matt and Helen host their first wedding at Chateau la Briance. 5.00 Moneybags (HD) Quiz show, hosted by Craig Charles. 6.00 The Simpsons (AD,R) 6.30 Hollyoaks (AD,R,HD) Sam confides in Lizzie and Ethan, who encourage him to come clean to Zoe. 7.00 Channel 4 News (HD) 8.00 Changing Rooms (AD,HD) Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen, Jordan Cluore and Russell Whitehead are in Berkshire, helping two sets of neighbours to make over a bedroom and a sitting room. Last in series. 9.00 Grand Designs (AD,HD) Kevin McCloud follows the progress of Dorran, who promised his wife and children he would build them an underground home on a hill outside Canterbury. 10.00 Football Dreams: The Academy (AD,HD) The documentary focuses on the under-18s, one of the country's best sides, including Ryan, who is coming back from injury and is desperate to prove his worth. Last in series. 11.05 The Great (AD,HD) Elizabeth pronounces that Catherine's baby will be born in five days. But when conflict with the Ottomans heightens, Catherine tries to run the country while on bed rest. 12.20 Inside the Superbrands: Typhoon (BSL,R,HD) 1.15 Rosie Jones' Trip Hazard (AD,BSL,R,HD) 2.10 Her Majesty the Queen (AD,BSL,R,HD) 3.05 Car S.O.S (BSL,R,HD) 3.55 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces (BSL,R,HD) 4.50 The Great Home Transformation (BSL,R,HD)

(R) Repeat. (HD) High Definition. (AD) Audio Description. (b/w) Not in colour. (BSL) British Sign Language.

Family viewing Generally suitable for all Caution recommended

PORTWENN PRACTICE**Doc Martin, 9pm, ITV**

WELL, that retirement didn't last long, and in episode two, the Portwenn surgery is open for business again. However, things aren't running smoothly with new receptionist Max Foreman behind the desk, and it's a bit cramped with Martin (Martin Clunes, pictured) and Louisa both working from the surgery. But after a chance encounter, Louisa learns that her dream home, West Cliff House, is on the market. She'd better act fast before some out-of-town snaps it up as a holiday home!

**FILM CHOICE****Divergent, 9pm, BBC3**

ACTION ADVENTURE, set in a dystopian world where people are divided into five factions — Abnegation, Amity, Candor, Dauntless and Erudite. Shailene Woodley is the girl who possesses all five qualities, and could be the key to a new world order.

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! Kid-E-Cats (HD) **6.05** Peppa Pig (AD,R) **6.10** Peppa Pig (AD,R) **6.15** Peppa Pig (AD,R) **6.20** Mya Go (R,HD) **6.30** Blue's Clues & You (R,HD) **6.55** Fireman Sam (R,HD) **7.05** Thomas & Friends: All Engines Go! (HD) **7.15** Peppa Pig (AD,R,HD) **7.20** Peppa Pig (R) **7.25** Paw Patrol (R,HD) **7.35** Milo (R,HD) **7.50** Pip and Posy (R,HD) **8.05** The Adventures of Paddington (R,HD) **8.20** Ricky Zoom (R,HD) **8.35** Peppa Pig (R,HD) **8.40** Daisy & Ollie (R,HD) **8.50** Odo (R,HD) **8.55** Kangaroo Beach (R,HD) **9.10** Sunny Bunnies (R)

9.15 **Jeremy Vine** (HD) The broadcaster and guests discuss the issues of the day, with co-host Storm Huntley joining him for phone-ins and reading out viewers' correspondence.

12.45 **Holiday Homes in the Sun** (HD)

1.40 **5 News at Lunchtime** (HD)

1.45 **Home and Away** (HD)

2.15 **My Husband's Secret Life** (2018)

FILM (12) ● (HD) A woman discovers her husband is leading a dangerous double life after a sudden accident leaves him in a coma. Thriller, starring Kara Killmer.

4.00 **Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun** (R,HD) Cosmetics saleswoman Val has a new business venture.

5.00 **5 News** (HD)

6.00 **Cash in the Attic** (HD) Helping people make money.

7.00 **The Highland Vet** (R,HD) A seal is brought in to the large animal wing, but may be too ill to return to the wild. A rescue dog in training for police duties needs a delicate procedure.

7.55 **5 News Update** (HD)

8.00 **Traffic Cops** (R,HD) When officers stop a driver in relation to an alleged drunken assault, the breathalyser indicates he is more than three times over the limit, and two knives are found in his car. (Followed by 5 News Update)

9.00 **Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts** (HD) An 83-year-old man is rushed in with suspected sepsis, while paramedics rush to help a woman who has fallen out of her vehicle after getting her foot tangled in her handbag strap.

10.00 **Ambulance: Code Red** (R,HD) Critical care paramedic Fay Pollock is dispatched to a serious motorbike crash where a rider was thrown 15 feet by a collision with a car, breaking the largest bone in his body.

11.05 **A&E After Dark** (R,HD) When 70-year-old Peter arrives at Hull Royal Infirmary with a dangerously high heart rate, Dr Chris and the medical team have to act fast to prevent him going into cardiac arrest.

12.05 **999: Criminals Caught on Camera** (R) **1.00** Police: Night Shift 999 (R,HD) **2.00** World's Most Scenic Railway Journeys (R,HD) **3.00** Britain's Favourite Cleaning Product (R,HD) **5.00** Wildlife SOS (BSL,R) **5.25** Entertainment News (HD) **5.30** Peppa Pig (BSL,R) **5.35** Paw Patrol (BSL,R)

▲ Particularly liable to offend

We can always rely on Bake Off for stale skits and soggy bottoms

WELL done, Channel 4, for broadcasting The Great British Bake Off as scheduled last night.

At a time of great national change and uncertainty, wasn't it comforting to watch a dozen people baking sponge cakes? Even if some ingredients of this much-loved show are starting to look a bit stale.

The new series began with a sketch about Star Wars in which Matt Lucas played 'Luke Piewalker' and Noel Fielding was 'Princess Laver Cake'. Never mind dad jokes, these were great-granddad jokes.

Then there's the shtick that Paul Hollywood is the show's tough guy, the Phil Mitchell of patisserie.

This hard-man image was mentioned more than once as he prowled around the tent. Actually, Paul is as soft as a choux bun. He doesn't pull his punches as a judge, but he also offers sympathetic words of encouragement.

Prue Leith can be just as critical, in fact, but it's hard to act tough when you're wearing shocking pink spectacles.

So what about the really important people, the bakers?

Polish-born Janusz, 34, was named Star Baker. Asked to produce a cake in the shape of a house for the showstopper round, he baked a stunning and colourful

POLITICIAN OF THE WEEK: Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who died last month aged 91, was instrumental in ending the Cold War but modest about his achievements. Interviewed in Gorbachev, Heaven (BBC4) he suggested an alternative title for the programme: *Conversations With A Crank*.

replica of his mother's flat in Poland. But is he just a little too pleased with himself?

Malaysian Syabira, 32, a smiley scientist, should also go far. She won the technical challenge, baking a red velvet cake.

In the first round, Angolan Sandro baked mini-sandwiches in the shape of flowers in pots and came second in the red velvet cake challenge. 'I'm happy with second,' he said. 'Second is kind of first.'

No, Sandro, second is kind of second.

Some contestants struggled from the start. 'It's interesting to have a disaster in your first challenge,' sighed Will, 45. More disasters followed, and he was shown the tent door.

Watch out, too, for purple-haired supermarket checkout lady Carole, 59, who might be a bit of a character.

Gathering her ingredients for the showstopper challenge, she mused: 'Who doesn't like coffee and walnut? Unless you don't like coffee, or you're allergic to

WELSH TV VARIATIONS

BBC1: 1.30pm BBC Wales Today; Weather. **6.30** BBC Wales Today; Weather. **10.40** The Emilliano Sala Story. **11.10** Rewind: 60 Years of Welsh Pop. **11.40** FILM: Rush (2013) (15). **1.30am** BBC News. **ITV:** 11.00pm News Cymru Wales; Weather. **S4C:** 6.00am Cym. **11.00** Dysgu Gyda Cym. Meriopsan. **11.05** Dysgu Gyda Cym. Do Re Mi Dona. **11.20** Dysgu Gyda Cym. Timpo. **11.30** Dysgu Gyda Cym. Jen a Jim Pob Dim. **11.45** Dysgu Gyda Cym. Stiwl. **12noon** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. **12.05** Cwprdd Epic Chris. **12.35** Garddio a Mwyl. **1.05** Prynhawn Da. **2.00** Newyddion: Marwolaeth y Frenhines. **3.30** Triathlon Para y Byd, Abertawe. **4.00** Awr Fawr: Odo. **4.10** Awr Fawr: Sam Tan. **4.20** Awr Fawr: Byd Tad-Cu. **4.30** Awr Fawr: Octonots. **4.45** Awr Fawr: Fferm Fach. **5.00** Stwnsh. **6.00** Trysorau Cymru: Tir, Tai a Chyfrinachau. **6.30** Rownd a Rownd. **6.57** Newyddion S4C. **7.00** Heno. **7.30** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. **8.00** Pobol y Cwm. **8.25** Cegin Bryn: Yn Ffrainc. **8.55** Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. **9.00** Cynefin. **10.00** Ty am Ddim. **11.00** Dim Byd i'w Wigo.



ROLAND WHITE LAST NIGHT'S TV

The Great British Bake Off ★★★☆☆

The Pyrenees, with Michael Portillo ★★★☆☆

nuts.' Not just a baker but a comic philosopher, too.

What is it about Michael Portillo and bright colours? The outfits he wears for his railway journeys are so dazzling, fellow passengers should really be issued with protective goggles.

In *The Pyrenees* (C5) he was more soberly dressed but his

bright orange beanie hat could probably have been seen for miles around, as he trudged up mountain paths with his dicky hip and walking stick.

The former Conservative Cabinet minister has walked 300 miles from Spain's Atlantic coast to the Mediterranean but this final stage of his journey was

like a poignant episode of *Who Do You Think You Are?* with mountain views. Portillo's father, Luis, was a junior minister in the republican government overthrown by General Franco in the Spanish Civil War. Luis fled to France and his son walked up the very path his father must have used to reach the border.

Portillo Jr was in sombre, philosophical mood, recalling that his uncles all fought for Franco against his father's government.

He was far more upbeat about his journey at its end: 'On every step along the way I felt the joy of being alive.' Could he have said that if he'd stuck to politics?

■ **CHRISTOPHER STEVENS** is away.

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PICK OF DIGITAL & ON DEMAND TV

MAGGIE, DISNEY+

BEING able to tell the future has never made life easy for psychic Maggie (Rebecca Rittenhouse, pictured), whose own love life is something of a disaster, but at least her visions have always been limited to other people. Or at least they have been until she meets history teacher Ben (David Del Rio), and suddenly she's getting glimpses of a joint future for the two of them where it looks like they fall in love and marry. Can she trust what she's seeing? Are they really destined to

be together for ever? That's the 'Will they? Won't they?' puzzle at the heart of this refreshing 13-part romantic comedy series. The fresh-faced cast carry off the fantastical premise with aplomb, especially Rittenhouse, who has a charming chemistry with Del Rio. Silly and sassy, it's a delightfully enjoyable watch – though, sadly, it hasn't been renewed for a second season after it was released this summer in the U.S. All 13 episodes are available to watch on Disney+ from today.



SYDNEY TEENS

Heartbreak High, Netflix

A HIT Australian show of the 1990s, the original Heartbreak High (also available on Netflix) was a vibrant Down-Under cross between Grange Hill and Beverly Hills 90210, filled with hot-topic issues, teen angst and edgy romance. This sharp new reboot is set in the same school, Hartley High in the Sydney suburbs, but with a fresh raft of 21st-century characters, facing very modern dilemmas. The students range from the typical jock (basketball star Malakai) and class clown Spider to lesbian Chinese-Australian Sasha



and autistic Quinni. As the eight-part series begin, there's trouble for Amerie (Ayesha Madon, pictured), when her secret chart of all her classmates' sexual liaisons is found.

POP QUIZ

Never Mind The Buzzcocks, 9pm, Sky Max

A NEW series for Sky's enjoyable resurrection of the raucous music quiz, with Greg Davies returning as host. The guests here are Nile Rodgers, Russell Howard and singer-songwriter Mae Muller.

RACY NEW COMEDY

Minx, Paramount+

IT'S 1970s America, and Joyce Prigger (Ophelia Lovibond) is having little luck pitching her idea for a feminist magazine. Eventually, porn publisher Doug Renetti (Jake Johnson) offers to back her – as long as the mag includes naked male centrefolds. It's not exactly what she had in mind, but Joyce accepts – and soon finds herself at the helm of the first erotic magazine for women. This is a terrific, smart comedy drama that is laugh-out-loud funny. Oh, and it's also absolutely filthy. You've been warned.

A-Z SATELLITE LISTINGS

ALIBI

Sky 109 Virgin 126
12noon Death in Paradise. **1.00** Father Brown. **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries. **4.00** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries. **5.00** Unforgettable. **6.00** Major Crimes. **7.00** Rizzoli & Isles. **8.00** Death in Paradise. **9.00** CSI: Vegas. **10.00** My Life Is Murder. **11.00** Murdoch Mysteries.

ANIMAL PLANET

Virgin 251
12noon Tanked. **1.00** Pit Bulls & Parolees. **2.00** Celebrity Animal Encounters. **3.00** The Crocodile Hunter: Best of Steve Irwin. **4.00** My Cat from Hell. **5.00** Animal Cops Philadelphia. **6.00** Tanked. **7.00** Pit Bulls & Parolees. **8.00** How Sharks Hunt. **9.00** Sharktacular 2016. **10.00** Edge of Alaska. **11.00** The Zoo.

BBC ALBA

Sky 169 Virgin 161
6.00am Alba Today. **5.00pm** Su Pic. **5.10** Bing. **5.15** Annan a' Nao' Huggleboo. **5.25** Abada. **5.35** 'S E Iasg a Th'Annam. **5.40** Beathaichean a' Bocadaich. **5.45** Pip & Posy. **5.55** Stoirdh. **6.00** Kung Fu Panda. **6.20** @12. **6.30** Geamaichean Gorach. **6.35** Saidheans Sporsail. **7.00** Dealbhan Fraoich. **7.30** SpeakGaelic. **8.00** An La. **8.30** Vets: Gach Creutair Beo. **9.00** Farpaisean Chon-Chaorach. **10.00** Mach a Seo! **10.30** Women's Sport 360. **11.05** Dealbh is Slighe. **11.15** The Cutter – Seonaidh Beag Iain. **11.30** Cuirm@Celtic.

BBC THREE

Freeview 23 Sky 117
7.00pm Top Gear. **7.00** The Catch Up. **8.00** Gassed Up. **8.50** Zen Motoring. **9.00** FILM: Divergent. (2014) (12) **11.10** The Rap Game UK.

BT SPORT 1

Sky 413 Virgin 527
12noon UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine. **1.00** Live UEFA Youth League. Chelsea U19 v RB Salzburg U19 (Kick-off 1pm). **3.00** Live UEFA Youth League. Manchester City U19 v Borussia Dortmund U19 (Kick-off 3pm). **5.00** Serie A – Full Impact. **5.30** Live UEFA Champions League. AC Milan v Dinamo Zagreb (Kick-off 5.45pm). **7.45** Live UCL Goals Show. **10.15** WWE NXT.

BT SPORT 2

Sky 414 Virgin 528
10.30am Live FFA Cup. Oakleigh Cannons v Macarthur FC (Kick-off 10.30am). **12.30pm** UEFA Champions League. **3.00** UEFA Champions League Tonight. **4.00** WWE SmackDown Highlights. **5.00**

WWE Raw Highlights. **6.00** BT Sport Reload. **6.30** Joe Cole Cast. **7.00** Live UEFA Champions League. Manchester City v Borussia Dortmund (Kick-off 8pm). **10.30** Live UEFA Champions League Tonight. **11.30** Currie Club.

BT SPORT 3

Sky 417 Virgin 529
11.15am Premiership Rugby Highlights. **12.45pm** Rugby Tonight. **1.30** ESPN FC. **2.00** Badminton Unlimited. **2.30** Live: Hero CPL. **6.45** Premier League Stories. **7.15** Live UEFA Champions League. Chelsea v RB Salzburg (Kick-off 8pm). **10.30** The Aussie Rules Show. **11.00** Badminton Unlimited. **11.30** Live: Hero CPL. Trinbago Knight Riders v Guyana Amazon Warriors.

COMEDY CENTRAL

Sky 112 Virgin 181
10.55am Friends. **9.00pm** Michael McIntyre's Showtime. **10.00** Jack Whitehall: Comedy Central Live. **10.30** Ardal O'Hanlon: Comedy Central Live. **11.00** Ridiculousness.

DAVE (DAYTIME)

Freeview 19 Sky 111
12noon Bangers and Cash. **1.00** BorderForce: America's Gatekeepers. **2.00** Top Gear. **3.00** Rick Stein's Secret France. **4.00** Top Gear. **5.00** Rick Stein's Secret France. **6.00** Taskmaster.

DISCOVERY

Sky 125 Virgin 250
11.00am Wheeler Dealers. **12noon** Supertrucks. **1.00** Gold Rush: Winter's Fortune. **2.00** Lone Star Law. **3.00** Homestead Rescue: Raney Ranch. **4.00** Alaska: The Last Frontier. **5.00** Wheeler Dealers. **6.00** Kindig Customs. **7.00** Junkyard Empire. **8.00** Railroad Alaska. **9.00** Deadliest Catch. **10.00** Mysteries of the Deep. **11.00** Yukon Men.

DRAMA (DAYTIME)

Freeview 20 Sky 143 Virgin 130
8.40am The Bill. **9.40** Classic HOLBY City. **11.00** Casualty. **12noon** The Bill. **1.00** Classic EastEnders. **2.15** Monarch of the Glen. **3.20** A Place to Call Home. **4.20** All Creatures Great and Small. **5.20** Birds of a Feather. **6.00** Are You Being Served? **6.40** 'Allo 'Allo!

E4 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 13 Sky 135 Virgin 106
9.00am How I Met Your Mother. **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. **11.00** Young Sheldon. **12noon** Brooklyn Nine-Nine. **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. **3.00** Young Sheldon. **4.00** Married at First Sight UK. **5.00** The Big Bang Theory.

EDEN

Sky 166 Virgin 245
12noon Secrets of the Solar System. **1.00** Forbidden History. **2.00** Wild Fukushima. **3.00** Wild Colombia with Nigel Marven. **4.00** Wild Edens. **5.00** Outback Vet. **6.00** The Zoo. **7.00** Forbidden History. **8.00** Outback Vet. **9.00** Wild Edens. **10.00** The Zoo. **11.00** Forbidden History.

EUROSPORT 1

Sky 410 Virgin 521
10.00am Cycling: Tour of Romania. **11.00** Cycling: Tour of Slovakia. **12noon** Cycling: Tour of Luxembourg. **1.00** Live Cycling: Tour of Luxembourg. **2.45** Cycling: Tour of Slovakia. **3.00** Live Cycling: Tour of Slovakia. **4.30** Cycling: Tour of Luxembourg. **5.35** FIM Endurance World Championship. **6.30** SailGP. **7.00** Show Jumping. **7.55** Eurosport News. **8.00** Wrestling: World Championships. **8.30** Cycling: Tour of Luxembourg. **9.30** Cycling: Tour of Slovakia. **10.30** Wrestling: World Championships. **11.00** Speedway Grand Prix.

FILM4

Freeview 14 Sky 313 Virgin 428
11.00am BLANCHE FURY. (1948) (U) **12.55pm** FREEDOM RADIO. (1940) (PG) **2.50** DISTANT DRUMS. (1951) (U) **4.55** AT GUNPOINT. (1955) (U) **6.35** SAHARA. (2005) (12) **9.00** INDIANA JONES AND THE TEMPLE OF DOOM. (1984) (12) **11.20** SICARIO. (2015) (15) **1.40am** SEARCHING. (2018) (12)

5STAR (DAYTIME)

Freeview 32 Sky 128 Virgin 151
12noon Shoplifters & Scammers: At War with the Law. **1.00** Traffic Cops. **2.00** Police Interceptors. **5.00** Dogs with Extraordinary Friends. **6.00** Home and Away.

5 USA (DAYTIME)

Freeview 21 Sky 141 Virgin 153
9.00am NCIS. **12noon** Law & Order. **3.55** Entertainment News on 5. **4.00** Law & Order. **6.00** NCIS.

FOOD NETWORK UK

Freeview 43 Sky 140 Virgin 285
6.00pm The Great British Bake Off. **8.00** The Hairy Bikers' Food Tour of Britain. **9.00** Rick Stein's Fruits of the Sea. **10.00** Rachel Khoo's Simple Pleasures. **11.00** Restaurant: Impossible.

GOLD

Sky 110 Virgin 124
11.30am Desmond's. **12.05pm** 2point4 Children. **12.45** Dad's Army. **1.30** Outnumbered. **2.05** Keeping Up Appearances. **2.40**

Last of the Summer Wine. **4.00** Dad's Army. **4.40** Open All Hours. **5.20** Keeping Up Appearances. **6.00** Hi-de-Hi! **6.40** Dad's Army. **8.00** Only Fools and Horses. **8.40** Murder, They Hope. **9.40** Bottom. **11.00** Live at the Apollo.

GREAT! MOVIES

Freeview 34 Sky 321 Virgin 425
12.50pm GREAT! MOVIE NEWS EXTRA. **1.00** SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED. **1.55** GREAT! MOVIE NEWS. **2.01** SIGNED, SEALED, DELIVERED. **2.50** GREAT! MOVIE NEWS EXTRA. **3.00** A DATE WITH MURDER. (2008) (15) **4.45** WILL PENNY. (1967) (12) **7.00** PUSH. (2009) (12) **9.00** THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY. (2012) (15) **10.50** NED KELLY. (2003) (15)

GREAT! MOVIES ACTION

Freeview 42 Sky 323 Virgin 426
11.00am STARSKY & HUTCH. **1.00pm** MAN IN THE SADDLE. (1951) (U) **1.55** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **2.01** MAN IN THE SADDLE. (1951) (U) **2.50** MACKENNA'S GOLD. (1969) (PG) **3.45** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **3.51** MACKENNA'S GOLD. (1969) (PG) **5.25** TANK FORCE. (1958) (U) **7.10** 40

RADIO 4

FM: 92.4-94.6MHZ; LW: 198KHZ

5.30 News Briefing. **5.43** Prayer for the Day. **5.45** Farming Today. **5.58** Tweet of the Day. **6.00** Today. **More or Less.** **9.00** One Dish. Andi Oliver and Jessica Fostekeew discuss the schnitzel. **(LW) Daily Service.** **9.45** (FM) Book of the Week: A Visible Man. By Edward Enninfal. **10.00** Woman's Hour. **11.00** Ugandan Asians: The Reckoning. **11.30** PICK Princess. **12.00** News; (LW) Shipping Forecast.

12.04 You and Yours. **12.57** Weather. **1.00** The World at One. **1.45** Procession to the Lying in State of Queen Elizabeth II. The procession to transport the coffin to to Westminster Hall.

Time	BBC 4	E4	ITV2
7.00pm	9 (Scot 24) Wonders of the Great Barrier Reef with Iolo Williams Whether the Great Barrier Reef can survive the threat of global warming	13 Hollyoaks Sid tries to persuade Lizzie to go on holiday with him	6 Secret Crush Smooth-talking Romeo tries to charm his way into Bobbie's reluctant heart, while Millie is going all out for her crush and soon-to-be housemate Claudia
7.30pm		The Big Bang Theory Leonard, Raj and Howard go camping	
8.00pm	South Pacific Efforts to preserve the marine life of the region, which is home to the world's richest coral reefs and an array of species, including whales	Below Deck: Mediterranean Hannah puts her foot down when Bobby and Danny bring girls back to the yacht	Bob's Burgers Bob secures a new meat provider
8.30pm			Bob's Burgers Bob and Linda get into trouble with their accountant
9.00pm	The Human Body: Secrets of Your Life Revealed Chris and Xand van Tulleken explore the way experiences shape the mind and body	Married at First Sight UK Another Commitment Ceremony takes place, with the couples getting the opportunity to discuss the week with Mel, Paul and Charlene. But important decisions lie ahead	Gordon, Gino and Fred: American Road Trip Gordon Ramsay, Gino D'Acampo and Fred Sirieix head to San Francisco
9.30pm	Christopher Eccleston Remembers – Our Friends in the North 10.10 Our Friends in the North Drama, starring Christopher Eccleston		Family Guy Peter takes up smoking
10.00pm		10.35 Send Nudes: Body SOS Vogue Williams meets porn star, Skyler who believes bigger buttocks could boost her career and beauty therapist	Family Guy Peter and his friends fight to save their favourite booth in the Drunken Clam
10.30pm	11.20 Our Friends in the North Geordie lands a job with a Soho porn baron, while back in Newcastle, Tosker's marriage to Mary buckles (To 12.25)		Family Guy Peter and Quagmire form a singer-songwriter partnership
11.00pm		11.35 Gogglebox Reactions to <i>The Dirt</i> and <i>Race Across the World</i> (To 12.40)	American Dad! 11.55 American Dad! (To 12.25)
11.30pm			

DAYS AND NIGHTS. (2012) (15) **8.05 THIS WEEK BACK THEN.** **8.11** 40 **DAYS AND NIGHTS.** (2012) (15) **9.00 THE RECALL.** (2017) (15) **9.55 THIS WEEK BACK THEN.** **10.01 THE RECALL.** (2017) (15) **10.50 BATTLE OF THE DAMNED.** (2013) (15)

GREAT! CHRISTMAS

Freeview 52 Sky 319 Virgin 424
10.00am The Christmas Sitters. (2020) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **12noon** His and Her Christmas. (2005) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **2.00** Spirit of Christmas. (2015) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **4.00** The Magic Stocking. (2015) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **6.00** Northpole. (2014) (U) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **8.00** Call Me Claus. (2001) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **10.00** Dashing Through the Snow. (2015) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News.

GREAT! TV

Freeview 50 Sky 157 Virgin 189
1.00pm Body of Proof. **2.00** Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye. **4.00** Murder, She Wrote. **6.00** Hart to Hart.

PICK OF TODAY'S RADIO

JOE LYCETT'S OBSESSIONS, 6.30PM, RADIO 4

The comedian and TV presenter Lloyd Griffith (pictured) is obsessed with fire engines. He has a collection of firemen's helmets, as well as wallets and bags made of recycled fire hose and candlesticks made of fire hydrants. He tells Joe Lycett all

about his intense fire engine fixation in this series on people's weird and wonderful obsessions. The broadcaster June Sarpong is also on the show; her obsession is with hula hoops and, she tells Joe, it's all Grace Jones's fault.

3.30 The Queen and the Commonwealth James Landale looks at the late Queen's role in shaping the Commonwealth. **4.00 Thinking Allowed.** **4.30 The Digital Human.** **5.00 PM; (LW) Shipping Forecast.** **5.57 Weather.** **6.00 Six O'Clock News.** **6.30 PICK Joe Lycett's Obsessions.**

7.00 The Archers. The fallout continues and Leonard offers a suggestion. **7.15 Front Row.** Arts news. **8.00 Bringing Up Britain.** New series. How to talk about climate change issues with youngsters. **8.45 Reflections on Majesty.** Lady Antonia Fraser reflects on the Queen's reign.

ITV 3	ITV 4	MORE 4	PICK	QUEST	DAVE	DRAMA	5STAR	5 USA
<div>10</div> Heartbeat Steve Crane's wayward mother Babs arrives in Aidsensfield, and causes all manner of chaos when she puts her self-defence skills into practice	<div>26</div> Live Women's International Rugby Union England v Wales (Kick-off 7.30pm). All the action from the friendly at Ashton Gate in Bristol, as the teams fine-tune preparations for the World Cup. The sides last met in the Six Nations in April, when England recorded a dominant 58-5 victory with the help of braces from Lark Davies and Jess Breach and further tries by Abbie Ward, Sarah Bern, Alex Matthews, Shaunagh Brown, Emily Scarratt and Sarah Hunter, with Kelsey Jones scoring Wales' consolation. Jill Douglas presents, with commentary by Nick Mullins and Nollie Waterman	<div>18</div> 6.55 Escape to the Chateau Dick and Angel host their last wedding of the year	<div>36</div> Hawaii Five-0 The team investigates the 10-year-old case of a missing teenage girl when a boy suffering from PTSD realises he may have witnessed her murder	<div>12</div> Outback Opal Hunters A hazardous buildup of dirt forces the Tunnel Rats to create a makeshift dump truck	<div>19</div> Richard Osman's House of Games With Nish Kumar, Clara Amfo and Al Murray	<div>20</div> 7.25 Last of the Summer Wine The friends meet a man who has a machine that can locate 'hidden forces'	<div>32</div> GPs: Behind Closed Doors Dr Sonia Ashraf makes her way to go and visit a patient at home who is suffering from dementia	<div>21</div> NCIS The team investigate when a fellow agent's burnt body is discovered, and Gibbs can no longer avoid his Mexican past catching up with him
Lewis Generation of Vipers: A professor feels humiliated when her internet dating video is leaked onto a website and watched by her students. The next morning she is found dead, the victim of what appears to be a straightforward suicide. However, Lewis is not convinced and digs deeper, identifying several suspects including the site's founder		7.55 The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes In the Dales, young William Dawson is in sole charge of lambing for the first time, and James Ratcliffe returns to Sedbergh, with plans to transform a pub into a top-end restaurant	Magnum P.I. While Higgins and TC are trying to wrangle a green card for Higgins, armed gunmen suddenly storm the building they are in and take hostages	Salvage Hunters Drew Pritchard and Tee John are excited by the items on offer at the largest antiques market in Italy	8.20 Would I Lie to You? With Warwick Davis, Paul Hollywood, Jason Manford and Joan Bakewell	The Coroner When Mick's rival landlord is found dead on the beach, Jane is forced to try to clear his name before he is charged with murder	Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts Paramedics rush to a 14-year-old girl having a prolonged epileptic seizure, and 76-year-old Keith arrives after an accident at home	NCIS Gibbs is held captive by Paloma Reynosa, head of a drug cartel and daughter of the man he killed, and forced to make a decision
Professor T Jasper becomes embroiled in a hostage situation, but his unconventional negotiating tactics do not go down well with the police. Drama, starring Ben Miller	Made in Britain A look at craftsmen making acoustic guitars fit for the stars	24 Hours in A&E Doctors treat a 63-year-old man with throat cancer who has suffered a bleed	SEAL Team Jason and the team have to say goodbye to their loved ones when the tragic deaths of a fellow SEAL team force them to deploy to Afghanistan immediately	Salvage Hunters Modern day treasure hunter Drew Pritchard travels the length and breadth of the UK in search of weird and wonderful objects	QI XL Jenny Eclair, Johnny Vegas and Bill Bailey join panellist Alan Davies for an extended edition of the quiz show, in which Stephen Fry offers up seasonal merriment	Whitechapel Part one of two. Miles and Chandler's latest case takes them deep into the world of modern art after the discovery of a flayed human face at Whitechapel Gallery	999: Emergency Call Out Documentary following joint police and paramedic fast response units	Criminal Minds When several people are shot at point-blank range in New York, the team questions whether there could be more than one killer involved
	English Football League Highlights Action from the latest fixtures, including West Bromwich Albion v Birmingham City at The Hawthorns and Norwich City v Bristol City at Carrow Road (To 12.00)	24 Hour Baby Hospital Roscommon couple Orlaith and James arrive at the Rotunda for an emergency procedure on their twins	Quantum Leap Sam leaps into the body of a Texas vet, and helps a headstrong rancher's daughter follow her heart in choosing between two suitors	American Pickers Mike and Dave check out a stash of amusement park relics, while Danielle and Robbie feast their eyes on a line-up of Hollywood hot rods	Mock the Week With Tom Allen, Ed Byrne, Rhys James and Tiff Stevenson	New Tricks The detectives investigate two deaths after the discovery of a Roman sword with traces of blood on it is linked to an unidentified, headless corpse	999: Critical Condition A 22-year-old arrives at the emergency department after crashing his motorbike	Criminal Minds A bomb explodes in a vehicle in New York, and a member of the BAU team may have been injured
11.05 Professor T The academic is called upon to help investigate the disappearance of a six-year-old girl (To 12.10)		11.05 24 Hours in A&E A 74-year-old man is brought in after suffering a suspected stroke (To 12.10)	Quantum Leap Sam occupies the body of Frankie, a Mafia hitman involved with another mobster's girlfriend (To 12.00)	How Do They Do It? How crews are rescued from disabled submarines	10.40 Would I Lie to You? With Denise Lewis, Richard Osman and Katherine Ryan	11.20 Spooks Part two of two. Harry races to prevent Britain being turned into a dictatorship as the conspirators exert control over the Prime Minister (To 12.40)	Skin A&E The specialist clinic opens its doors to patients with acne and cysts (To 12.00)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Benson and Lake track down a serial killer
				How Do They Do It? The safety systems used by racing drivers (To 12.00)	11.20 Would I Lie to You? With Fern Britton, Richard E. Grant, Sanjeev Bhaskar and Martin Clunes (To 12.00)			11.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A boy is sexually assaulted (To 12.55)

ITVBE

Freeview 28 Sky 131 Virgin 119

9.00am LittleBe. **12.00n** Best Cake Wins. **12.30** The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills. **1.20** The Real Housewives of Jersey. **2.20** The Only Way Is Essex. **3.10** Million Dollar Listing: NYC. **4.05** The Real Housewives of Orange County. **5.00** The Real Housewives of Potomac. **6.00** Masters of Flip. **7.00** Buying and Selling. **8.00** Dinner Date. **9.00** Billie and Greg: The Family Diaries. **10.00** Love Island USA. **11.00** The Only Way Is Essex. **12midnight** Million Dollar Matchmaker.

MORE4 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 18 Sky 136 Virgin 147

11.05am Find It, Fix It, Flog It. **1.10pm** Heir Hunters. **2.10** Four in a Bed. **4.50** Find It, Fix It, Flog It. **5.55** Car S.O.S. **6.55** Escape to the Chateau.

NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC

Sky 129 Virgin 266

11.00am Lost Treasures of Egypt. **12noon** Drain the Ocean: Egypt's Lost Wonders. **1.00** Ultimate Airport Dubai. **2.00** Air Crash Investigation.

4.00 Ice Road Rescue: Highway Havoc. **5.00** Car S.O.S. **6.00** Engineering New York Super Airport. **7.00** AirCrashInvestigation: Special Report. **8.00** Airport Security: Rome. **9.00** Narco Wars: Chasing the Dragon. **10.00** Trafficked with Mariana Van Zeller. **11.00** Air Crash Investigation.

PBS AMERICA

Freeview 84 Sky 174 Virgin 273

11.05am The Last Voices of World War One. **12.05pm** Nazi Hunters. **1.00** The Last Voices of World War One. **2.00** In Search of Medieval Britain. **3.20** The Silk Road. **4.35** The Last Voices of World War One. **5.40** Beautiful Serengeti. **6.10** In Search of Medieval Britain. **7.30** The Silk Road. **8.40** The Last Voices of World War One. **9.45** Nazi Hunters. **10.40** The Silk Road.

PICK (DAYTIME)

Freeview 36 Sky 159 Virgin 156

12noon Road Wars. **1.00** Border Patrol. **2.00** Nothing to Declare. **4.00** Stargate SG-1. **5.00** Star Trek: Enterprise. **6.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.

QUEST (DAYTIME)

Freeview 12 Sky 144

9.00am American Pickers. **10.00** Chasing Classic Cars. **11.00** Fantomworks. **12noon** Scrap Kings. **1.00** Money for Nothing. **2.00** The Repair Shop. **3.00** Find It, Fix It, Flog It. **4.00** Salvage Hunters. **5.00** Salvage Hunters: Classic Cars. **6.00** Wheeler Dealers.

REALLY

Freeview 17 Sky 142 Virgin 128

12noon Money for Nothing. **1.00** The Hotel Inspector. **2.00** Animal Cops Houston. **4.00** Dr Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet. **5.00** Ambulance. **6.00** Money for Nothing. **7.00** Antiques Road Trip. **9.00** My Feet Are Killing Me. **10.00** Dr Pimble Popper. **11.00** Ghost Adventures.

SKY ARTS

Freeview 11 Sky 130 Virgin 165

12noon Munch from the Munch Museum and National Gallery, Oslo. **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected. **2.00** Wonderland: From J.M. Barrie to J.R.R. Tolkien. **3.00** Portrait Artist of the Year 2014. **4.00** Discovering: Peter O'Toole. **5.00** Tales of the Unexpected. **6.00** Alfred Hitchcock

Presents. **7.00** Landscape Artist of the Year 2017. **8.00** Sky Arts Book Club. **9.00** Blitzed: The 80s Blitz Kids' Story. **11.00** The Seventies.

SKY ATLANTIC

Sky 108

12.15pm Ray Donovan. **2.25** Game of Thrones. **3.30** Boardwalk Empire. **5.45** The Sopranos. **7.55** Game of Thrones. **9.00** The White Lotus. **10.10** Irma Vep. **11.10** Landscapers.

SKY COMEDY

Sky 114 Virgin 135

11.00am Curb Your Enthusiasm. **12.45pm** Sex and the City. **3.00** Will & Grace. **4.00** Modern Family. **5.00** The Office (US). **5.30** Futurama. **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris. **7.30** The Office (US). **9.00** The Rehearsal. **9.40** Vice Principals. **10.50** Bloods. **11.20** The Late Late Show with James Corden.

SKY DOCUMENTARIES

Sky 121 Virgin 278

12noon FILM: The Kingmaker. (2019) (15) **2.00** Very Ralph. **4.00** The Directors. **5.00** Discovering: Jane Fonda. **6.00** The 2000s. **6.50** Catch and Kill: The Podcast Tapes. **7.50** The Vietnam War. **9.00** FILM: The Loneliest Whale: The Search for 52. (2021) (PG) **11.00** Wishful Drinking.

SKY PREMIERE

Sky 301 Virgin 401

11.55am THE 355. (2022) (12) **2.10pm** MURDER AT YELLOWSTONE CITY. (2022) (15) **4.25** STOWAWAY. (2022) (15) **6.10** AMERICAN CARNAGE. (2022) (15) **8.00** THE 355. (2022) (12) **10.10** SCREAM. (2022) (18)

SKY SCI-FI

Sky 152 Virgin 139

9.00am Teleshopping. **11.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. **12noon** Star Trek: Enterprise. **2.00** Futurama. **3.00** Fringe. **4.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. **5.00** Stargate SG-1. **6.00** Star Trek: Enterprise. **8.00** Manifest. **9.00** FILM: Lavalantula. (2015) (15) **11.00** The Leftovers.

SKY WITNESS

Sky 107 Virgin 112

12noon 9-1-1. **1.00** FBI. **2.00** Blue Bloods. **3.00** The Equalizer. **4.00** Paramedics Australia. **5.00** Nothing to Declare. **8.00** Blue Bloods. **9.00** New Amsterdam. **10.00** Bull. **11.00** 9-1-1.

SKY MAIN EVENT

Sky 401 Virgin 511

12noon Sky Sports News. **7.00** Soccer Special. **7.30** Live EFL. Reading v Sunderland (Kick-off 8pm). **10.30** Soccer Special Post-Match. **11.00** Live MLS. Orlando City SC v Atlanta United FC (Kick-off 11pm).

SKY PREMIER LEAGUE

Sky 402 Virgin 512

12noon Gary Neville's Soccerbox. **1.00** Premier League Years. **3.00** PL Greatest Games. **4.00** Premier League Best Goals. **5.00** Premier League 100 Club. **6.00** Premier League Legends. **6.30** Premier League Stories. **7.00** Soccer Special. **10.15** Premier League Stories. **10.45** PL Greatest Games. **11.00** Gary Neville's Soccerbox. **11.30** Premier League Stories.

SKY FOOTBALL

Sky 403 Virgin 513

12noon EFL Highlights. **12.15** EFL Rivalries. **1.15** EFL. **1.30** EFL. **2.00** Bundesliga. **3.00** EFL. **4.30** Inside The WSL: Beth Mead Special. **5.00** EFL. **6.30** EFL Goals: Leagues 1 & 2. **7.00** EFL. **7.30** Live EFL. Reading v Sunderland (Kick-off 8pm). **10.30** EFL Goals: Leagues 1 & 2. **11.00** Live MLS. Orlando City SC v Atlanta United FC (Kick-off 11pm).

SKY CRICKET

Sky 404 Virgin 514

8.30am Best of Ben Stokes: S Africa 2016. **12noon** Test Cricket. **9.00** Test Cricket Bitesize. **11.15** Best of England v South Africa.

SKY MIX

Sky 416 Virgin 520

10.00am World Matchplay Darts. **2.00pm** Fighting Fit 2020. **3.30** My Icon: Keegan Hirst. **3.45** My Icon: Sophie Cook. **4.00** Sail GP. **5.30** NFL Bitesize. **6.00** Show Jumping. **7.00** Women's International T20 Cricket. **11.00** PGA Tour Champions.

SMITHSONIAN

Freeview 57 Sky 171 Virgin 276

12noon America in Colour. **1.00** How Did They Build That? **2.00** Food Factories: How They Work. **3.00** Searching for Secrets. **4.00** The Pacific War in Colour. **6.00** Big Cat Country. **8.00** The Hunt for Escobar's Hippos. **9.00** Miami Wild. **10.00** Aerial Africa. **11.00** The Hunt for Escobar's Hippos.

TALKING PICTURES TV

Freeview 82 Sky 328 Virgin 445

12.15pm FILM: Young and Innocent. (1937) (U) **2.00** Upstairs, Downstairs. **3.00** Saddle Up. **3.05** FILM: California Conquest. (1952) (U) **4.40** Saddle Up. **4.45** FILM: Last of the Redmen. (1947) (U) **6.20** Saddle Up. **6.25** A Day of One's Own 1956. **6.50** The Edgar Wallace Mystery Theatre. **8.00** The Onedin Line. **9.00** FILM: The Happy Thieves. (1962) (U) **10.45** The Champions. **11.45** Hazell.

TCM

Sky 315 Virgin 415

8.45am WATERLOO. (1970) (U) **11.30** CHEYENNE. **1.30pm** ONE OF OUR SPIES IS MISSING. (1966) (U) **3.25** WHISPERING SMITH. (1948) (U) **5.15** THE RAIDERS. (1964) (PG) **6.50** BIG JAKE. (1971) (15) **9.00** THE MAN FROM UNCLE. (1955) (12) **11.25** PASSENGER 57. (2012) (15) **1.10am** MYSTERY SUBMARINE. (1950) (U)

W

Sky 132 Virgin 125

11.00am Inside the Ambulance: Coast and Country. **2.00pm** Tipping Point. **4.00** My Dream Home. **5.00** Property Brothers: Forever Homes. **7.00** MasterChef Australia. **8.15** Dating With My Mates. **9.15** The Undateables. **10.15** The Baby Has Landed. **11.15** One Born Every Minute.

YESTERDAY

Freeview 27 Sky 155 Virgin 129

12noon The Architecture of the Railways Built. **1.00** Bangers and Cash. **2.00** Abandoned Engineering. **4.00** War Factories. **5.00** The World at War. **6.00** The Architecture of the Railways Built. **7.00** Abandoned Engineering. **8.00** Secrets of the London Underground. **9.00** Bangers and Cash. **11.00** Abandoned Engineering.



■ FOR this week's instalment of her series **PRINCESS (11.30AM, RADIO 4)**, Anita Anand is joined by the politician Stella Creasy and the folklorist Juliette Wood to examine the origins of Elsa, the princess with magical ice powers in Disney's smash hit Frozen. Labour MP Creasy was pleasantly surprised to see how different Elsa is from the stereotypical Disney princess of old, just waiting for her prince to come along, and we hear about her roots in Norse mythology.

9.00 Costing the Earth. Mike Dilger reports on wildlife tourism in the Galapagos Islands. **9.30 The Media Show.** **9.59 Weather.** **10.00 The World Tonight.** **10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Maid.** By Nita Prose. **11.00 The Haunting.** Tom and Heidi find themselves trapped in a terrifying situation.

11.15 The Skewer. Jon Holmes twists current affairs clips into a surreal, satirical soundscape. **11.30 The Digital Human.** **12.00 News and Weather.** **12.30 Book of the Week: A Visible Man.** By Edward Enninfu. **12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As BBC World Service.**

RADIO 2 FM: 88-90.2MHZ

6.30 Zoe Ball. **9.30** Ken Bruce. **12.00** Jeremy Vine. **2.00** Steve Wright. **5.00** Sara Cox. **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower. **7.00** Jo Whiley's Shiny Happy Playlist. **7.30** Jo Whiley. **9.00** Her Majesty's Horses. **10.00** Trevor Nelson's Magnificent 7. **10.30** Trevor Nelson's Rhythm Nation. **12.00** OJ Borg.

RADIO 3 FM: 90.2-92.4MHZ

6.30 Breakfast. **9.00** Essential Classics. **12.00** Composer of the Week: Bruckner. **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. **2.00** Afternoon Concert. **4.00** Choral Evensong. **5.00** In Tune. **7.30** Radio 3 in Concert. Works by Ravel, Schumann and Rachmaninov. **10.00** Free Thinking. **10.45** The Essay: Sign Language Is My Language. **11.00** Night Tracks. **12.30** Through the Night.

RADIO 5 LIVE MW: 693/909KHZ

5.00 Wake Up to Money. **6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** Nicky Campbell. **11.00** Adrian Chiles. **1.45** 5 Live News. **3.30** 5 Live Drive. **7.00** 5 Live Sport. **8.00** Champions League Football. Manchester City v Borussia Dortmund. **10.30** Colin Murray. **1.00** Dotun Adebayo.

ARIES Mar 21 - Apr 20 CAI GUO-QIANG set the art world alight using gunpowder to generate spectacular visual events. By using explosives, the artist also creates canvases which express the fragile beauty of his homeland and the transformative aspect of destruction. We all have to deal with plans being knocked back and ideas fizzling out. You've recently experienced a disappointment. Now that enough time has passed, you can start to see how the debris of your initial idea holds the spark of a bright vision of the future. *Live life to the full. There is helpful advice and pleasing news in your latest four-minute forecast. Call 0906 751 5601.*

TAURUS Apr 21 - May 21 I WONDER how many horoscopes for Taureans start, unfairly, with a pun about 'bullishness'? Yes, you can be stubborn. But that's because you have strong principles. Unlike more duplicitous folk, you aren't prepared to mince your words, flatter or deceive to get where you need to be. You know truthfulness is best. And you're uncomfortable about making unsupportable declarations. Falsity is your nemesis. Trust your instincts today. An issue you're unsure about isn't quite what it seems. *Do you need support? What's the best way to move forward and ensure success? Call your weekly forecast: 0906 751 5602.*

GEMINI May 22 - June 22 WHAT matters most to you now? And why is it so important? I'm not trying to induce some complicated soul-searching exercise. But it's worthwhile considering the reasons and rationale that are underpinning your decisions. They certainly haven't been based on flights of fancy. So what are you supposed to make of the demand which is asking you to reconsider some of your choices? Definitely don't panic. Or take offence. It's time to decide firmly where you stand. *Need to change something in your world? Your latest four-minute forecast tells you how. Call 0906 751 5603.*

CANCER June 23 - July 23 SOMETIMES, it's possible to fudge your way through and smooth things over. At other times, well...it just isn't. If you're unsure about the best way to proceed today, it's better to bide your time and do as little as possible. It won't be for long. A wave of insight and clarity is making its way into

OSCAR CAINER

IN THE coming days, Saturn and Uranus come close to repeating the intense relationship that coloured much of 2021. It will affect many of the experiences we have until the end of October (when their separation

becomes more pronounced). With retrograde Jupiter moving between them later this month, they will bring back issues around freedom and protection. Lucky Jupiter's presence will help us rise to the challenge.



your world. Then you'll be able to banish your current uncertainty. Until then, it's better to leave something in an unsatisfactory state. If you try to improve it, you may end up making things even more complicated. *Make the most of your opportunities. Your latest, in-depth four-minute forecast contains inspiring news. Call 0906 751 5604.*

LEO July 24 - Aug 23 WOULD a cave on a remote island do the trick? Or should you start a new career as an astrophysicist? You're looking for a change of routine — the more dramatic the better. You've had a powerful emotional response to a situation that hasn't worked out as planned. Which is why you're contemplating an extreme change. But before you embark on any life-transforming ambitious plans, check they're well-thought through. You don't want to find yourself in an intense situation again. Choose the calmest option today. *Live life to the full. There is helpful advice and pleasing news in your latest four-minute forecast. Call 0906 751 5605.*

VIRGO Aug 24 - Sep 23 EVEN if you're not doing exactly what you want to do, you're doing what you're obliged to do. You're wrestling with a demanding dilemma. You're trying to assess some vital information and, by evaluating the implications, figure out what it all means. This isn't an easy process that you can just speed through. It's better to sit with uncertainty rather than jump to a quick conclusion that might turn out to be incorrect. Although you're keen to settle this once and for all, you might be better off allowing things to unfold. *Do you need support? What's the best way to move forward and ensure success? Call your weekly forecast: 0906 751 5606.*

LIBRA Sep 24 - Oct 23 YOU'RE unsure what to do for the best. The situation you're dealing with is so perplexing that you'd be happy to figure out a way of keeping things on an even(ish) keel. But every time you think you see a positive move to make, you realise it also contains a negative. The notion of doing nothing doesn't feel right either. Maybe you're just supposed to be in a quandary for a while. Yet the more you dwell on what you don't understand, the stronger you'll become. And that will benefit you long into the future. *Need to change something in your world? Your latest four-minute forecast tells you how. Call 0906 751 5607.*

SCORPIO Oct 24 - Nov 22 NO PAINTING is perfect. A tiny smudge here; perhaps the slightest error capturing the likeness of the sitter. But does it devalue the piece? No. It's impossible for anything we create to be flawless. So it is with us. Our imperfections are a natural part of who we are. You're perfectly imperfect. Something you dislike about yourself may well be the very thing someone loves about you. Try to be more tolerant of what you suspect might be less than ideal today. There's a good chance it might turn out just right. *Make the most of your opportunities. Your latest, in-depth four-minute forecast contains inspiring news. Call 0906 751 5608.*

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23 - Dec 21 THERE is only one way to find out if you've got what it takes; reach for what seems to be needed, and see if you can grasp it. Yes, you could lean so far that you lose your balance. But even then, you'll be able to dust yourself off and pick yourself up again. And the experience

would show you how far you can lean next time. But the most likely possibility is that you'll make the connection you're so keen to achieve. You think you know what's viable (and what's not). Yet you're only guessing. *Live life to the full. There is helpful advice and pleasing news in your latest four-minute forecast. Call 0906 751 5609.*

CAPRICORN Dec 22 - Jan 20 WE'VE all had a metaphorical wolf at our door. Some people say that these kinds of moments sharpen our minds by forcing us to find inventive ways to keep the howling beasts at bay. And they never find their way into the actual house. They just prowl until they turn their attention towards someone else. You're anxious about something you lack, that you wish you had more of. But, within you, you've got exactly what you need. Once you tap into your inner resources, you'll realise there's nothing to be afraid of. *Do you need support? What's the best way to move forward and ensure success? Call your weekly forecast: 0906 751 5610.*

AQUARIUS Jan 21 - Feb 19 WHY head into the future filled with anxieties? For starters, it would be miserable. And it's highly unlikely it would bring positive events your way either. The more we worry, the less headspace we have for resolution. So we're much better off channeling our energy in a positive way so that we can tackle our problems constructively. A positive outlook also enables us to revisit potential solutions with fresh perspective. Be open to a left-field solution, and you'll find that your way ahead is much clearer. *Need to change something in your world? Your latest four-minute forecast tells you how. Call 0906 751 5611.*

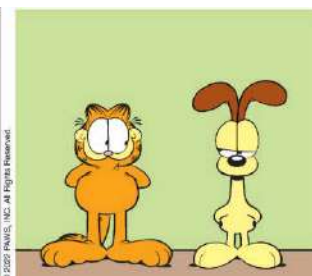
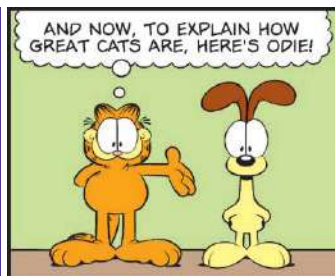
PISCES Feb 20 - Mar 20 WHEN you can't imagine where the end is, does that mean you're caught in a circle and destined to go round and round for ever? You don't know for certain what's the right thing to do. But if so, how can you be sure you know what the wrong one is? Although tempting to look at what's going on as a 'mistake', it could turn out to hold surprisingly positive potential. Rather than resigning yourself to perpetual compromise, be open to a development that creates a new, better way forward. *Make the most of your opportunities. Your latest, in-depth four-minute forecast contains inspiring news. Call 0906 751 5612.*

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"Excellent product. Very light, easy to use, long blade which makes hedge cutting quicker. Highly recommend."

Susan F. ★★★★★

Roam free with the Gtech Cordless Hedge Trimmer

Regular trimming of your hedge will thicken it up and give it an incredible texture, but heavy trimmers, cables, and step ladders make hedge trimming a job that some people hate. Gtech's cordless HT50 makes hedge trimming a pleasure.

Cordless Convenience

With 60 minutes of runtime*, you can move freely around your garden without being tethered by cables or worrying about messy petrol. Running off a high torque 18V motor, the HT50 Hedge Trimmer supplies the power directly when needed. The lightweight but super strong drive system is designed for refinement and quiet running, but don't be fooled – the precision, laser cut blades power through branches up to 25mm thick. Leaving a clean cut is vital to promote a healthy hedge.

Long Reach

The Gtech HT50 Hedge Trimmer has an adjustable head that rotates through 135° so that you have full control over the cut of your hedge. The head adjusts downwards

so you can cut the top of your hedge easily, and upwards so that you can cut thorny hedges without scratching your arms. Keep your hedges neat by cutting flat along the tops of hedges up to 10ft tall† using the 55cm long blade. The precision blades power through foliage, leaving clean cut, healthy stems which will bud out to create a beautiful, rich textured hedge.

Perfectly Balanced

Weighing only 2.94kg and accompanied by the harness, you can move freely around your garden without feeling anchored down. The HT50 is well balanced giving you a more enjoyable gardening experience without worrying about the weight.



Buy now and receive our Garden Rack (**worth £19.99**) to keep your Hedge Trimmer stored neatly in one place, with separate compartments to hold the battery, pole and blade. To receive your Garden Rack, enter the following code when buying online: **DM63**

Included with purchase



Adjustable head

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PETERBOROUGH

email: pboro@dailymail.co.uk

Wrong-footed by shoe thief Mr Fox

ON THE first morning on holiday in Broadstairs, Kent, I opened the patio doors in my bedroom, put my tablet on charge and went to make breakfast. When I returned later, the first thing I noticed was that the tablet was missing, but the charger was still in the socket. Thinking someone had broken in and stolen it, I went to the patio doors — only to find a fox staring back at me with my tablet at his feet! I shooed him off, retrieved the tablet, closed the doors and went to put my sandals on — only to find one shoe, one sandal and one flip-flop missing. My friend had a right chuckle as she had visions of me walking around in my slippers all week. I did a scout around the garden and managed to find all three. What a relief —



holiday saved! It was only later that I discovered Mr Fox had chewed the strap on one of my expensive new shoes, leaving it hanging by a couple of threads. Watch out for a kleptomaniac fox with a taste for leather!

Carol Thompson,
Chesterfield, Derbys.

Picture that!



HEAVEN SENT: I spotted this cloud formation resembling the Queen the day after she passed away.
Aimee Griggs-Firth,
Grimsby, Lincs.

One-line Philosophers

■ THERE are many people who think they can push themselves forward by giving themselves a pat on the back.

Antony Dean, Keighley, W. Yorks.

■ I WONDER if sprinter Dina Asher-Smith's mascara runs faster than mine does?

V. Hefter, Richmond, Surrey.

Out Of The Mouths Of Babes

ON SEEING me remove plates being warmed in the oven, my six-year-grandson Nicholas said to his mum: 'Why is Nannie cooking the plates? Strange lady!'

Barbara Napier,
Dunstable, Beds.

Wordy Wise

COUNCIL DATES: imaginary completion times.

COUNCIL HATES: more public pressure.

COUNCIL MATES: top-level friendships.

COUNCIL FATES: in voters' hands.

COUNCIL LATES: silent red faces.

COUNCIL TATES: small gallery start-ups.

T. John Foster, Stafford.

Anagram

Truss energy plan
= Sprung earnestly

Phil Joiner,
Woodford Green, Essex.

It's All In The Name

LIKE the reader who made the joke about sharing his surname with the rugby position, my friend's wife's maiden name was Hooker. When he introduced her to anyone, he would say: 'This is my wife — she was a Hooker before I married her.' It always raised a laugh.

Ellie Raby, Southampton.

Sign language



DISAPPEARING ACT: Spotted by Iris Goldstone of Prestwich, Gtr Manchester.

Today's poem

A KINDER KIND OF PLACE

Standing by the kitchen door,
I watch the clouds scud by,
Save one lone cloud, which hangs there,
Like a blanket, in the sky.
I sense the world is changing.
Cloud formations, overhead,
Are racing to the future,
Racing from the funeral bed.

As I sat at my computer,
Feeling lost, despite my years,
The great enormity of it
Dissolved me into tears.

It wasn't that I knew her,
Though I knew her inside out.
For actual knowing of the throne's
Not what it's all about.

It is the sense of permanence,
That everything is right,
That pervades the role of monarchy;
That makes the future bright.

As we look into that future,
While we still recall her face,
I'd like to think she left this world
A kinder kind of place.

Ruth Twyman Lockyer,
Yarmouth, Isle of Wight.

Limerick

Elizabeth's praises we sing
While wondering what future days bring;
And though it feels strange
To contemplate change,
The Queen is gone, long live the King!

Paul A. Freeman, Abu Dhabi.

Nursery Rhyme For Our Time

Oh dear, what can the matter be?
Two old ladies go into the library,
Not there to read the classics or history,
But just to keep warm, you see.

A.R. Hopkins,
Beltinge, Kent.

Joke

IF TOWELS could tell jokes, they would probably have a dry sense of humour.

Bethany Clark,
Runcorn, Cheshire.

LETTERS

King's mission

I HAVE great respect for King Charles III, who made a speech on the dangers of plastic waste as far back as 1970.

He pointed out that every bit of plastic ever made is still around somewhere in the environment.

But he was mocked for years for being 'odd' because of his concern for the environment.

It was unfashionable in those days — but he was right all along.

He has also done great work for decades to promote the benefits of organic farming.

A. WILLS, Ruislip, Middx.

Modern monarchy

I CAN only hope that with the Queen's passing we will see the end of the Royals being accused of colonialism, warmongering, slavery, exploitation, class superiority or anything else that comes to mind as being wrong with our country over the past 500 years.

The new line of succession brings the Royal Family into the 21st century. They will be the people's ambassadors and representatives without political spin.

I see a great future for King Charles III overseeing The Firm and an increasing role for William and Kate.

The Royal Family has given stability and continuity to our country throughout history. Long may it continue to do so.

COLIN NICOL, Sutton, Surrey.

Hard-working Anne

IN THE line of succession, Princess Anne ranks behind her younger brother's grandchild.

It was only the Succession to the Crown Act 2013 that replaced male-preference primogeniture, which meant a younger son could displace an older daughter.

Princess Anne never complains, gets on with her life and duties and is one of the hardest working Royals. At her mother's side at the end, she brought tears to our eyes when she curtsied to the Queen's coffin. I salute her.

Mrs PAM ELLIS, Sarratt, Herts.

IT WOULD be a great gesture for King Charles to bestow on his sister, the Princess Royal, the highest order possible in recognition of her position in the Royal Family.

Name and address supplied.

Seismic shift

IT'S only natural to be numbed by shock and despair when our everyday routine suffers a seismic shift.

It can seem as if the bottom has fallen out of our world. To be filled with grief and sadness for lost happiness is understandable but we must be resilient, show a positive face and welcome the challenges and

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CELEBRATE LIFE OF A LOVED ONE

HAVE you lost a relative or friend in recent months whose life you'd like to celebrate? Our column on Friday's letters page tells the stories of ordinary people who lived extraordinary lives. Email a 500-word tribute and a favourite photo to: lives@dailymail.co.uk or write to: Extraordinary Lives, Daily Mail, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT. Please include a phone number.

opportunities presented by the clean slate of a whole new world where everything is still possible.

IAN MacDONALD,
Billerica, Essex.

Celebrate the young

ONE of the remarkable things about the many huge public gatherings to salute the wonderful service of the Queen has been the number of young children eager to take part.

Boys and girls have expressed their admiration for the late monarch with great clarity and feeling.

You expect the older generation to join the many tributes, but how wonderful to see schoolchildren able to express their admiration for the Queen's devoted service.

PAUL MARSTON, Walsall, W. Mids.

Drive the flag

WHAT a great pity that a Mercedes hearse rather than a British vehicle was used to transfer the Queen's coffin to Edinburgh.

Contrast this with the old but very elegant Rolls-Royce that our new King has pressed into service to go about his business in London.

ROBERT ANTHONY, Bedford.

Right wavelength

I WOULD like to congratulate BBC Radio 2 for its perfect broadcasting since the announcement of the death of the Queen.

Grown-up, professional presenters and music you can listen to instead of its usual raucous shrieking and tone-deaf tunes. It shows the BBC can do it when it wants to.

A lovely legacy to the Queen would be Radio 2 returning to a style that delights its core audience.

HELEN PENNEY,
Longborough, Glos.

DURING this week of mourning, Radio 2 presenters are showing they don't need to be shouty, loud and boring but can be civilised. The music played is more to the taste of

Was it an own goal to

DEBATE

THE FA scored an own goal by postponing football matches, particularly when there wasn't an obligation to do so. It would have been an opportunity for fans to come together and show their affection for the Queen, who was a true sports fan and woman for all the people. A one-minute silence could have been broadcast from stadiums in the four corners of the UK, adding some diversity to the scenes at Buckingham Palace, Windsor and Balmoral, which have been dominating coverage.

STEVE NORRIS,
Coppull, Lancs.

I AM sure the Queen would have preferred tens of thousands of her citizens to gather in the name of football

and take the opportunity to express their sorrow and love in volumes that would have raised all our spirits. Just think of the economic consequences of the cancellations, including coach companies and rail operators losing income from two weeks of postponed matches. The knee-jerk reaction by the football authorities left them out of line with other sports that carried on and were able to show their love for our greatest Briton.

CHRIS HORSMAN,
Little Stanion, Northants.

INSTEAD of cancelling matches, fans could have observed a respectful and dignified one-minute silence, as the Houses of Parliament did.

JOHN WATSON,
Gillingham, Kent.

■ SEND your contributions to Peterborough, Daily Mail Letters, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT

Crass Queen jibes shame detractors

IT DIDN'T take long for the anti-monarchy halfwits, most of whom are a bunch of nobodies, to make their offensive comments. To accuse the Queen of ruling over slavery and cruelty is an insult to a lady who did more for this country in one day than these morons have done in their whole lives. To voice their puerile whining while the Royal Family is in mourning is unforgivable.

GEORGE FINDLAY, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs.

IT IS galling at this sad time that a bunch of useless, Left-wing, embittered nonentities have voiced their repulsive opinions. Football pundit Trevor Sinclair has apologised that just an hour after it was announced that the Queen had died, he posted a Tweet asking why 'black and brown people' should mourn. Comedian Kevin Bridges 'joked' in his stand-up show in Glasgow that 'she will not be the only old woman to die this winter'. We have seen decent people suffer outrageous abuse, cancellation on Twitter and losing their livelihoods for simply voicing opinions shared by the majority that happen to be contrary to the woke point of view. I hope a similar fate befalls all those who make repugnant comments about the Queen.

KEVIN COLEY, Leicester.



Heartless joke: Comic Kevin Bridges

NO ONE is asking the likes of Trevor Sinclair to mourn the Queen. The fact is that the rest of us are respectful and sad. The monarchy has been a steadfast crutch to so many and will continue with our new King, Charles III.

DEB SUMMERS, Gillingham, Kent.

A SCOTTISH fish and chip shop owner has committed commercial suicide and doomed her business because she thought it would be funny to disrespect the Queen. Think before you speak.

BILL FOSTER, Canterbury, Kent.

I AM disgusted by the sick comments from anti-monarchists. Protest and free speech are everyone's democratic right, but it is shameful to exercise that right at this sad time.

SAMUEL FAROOQ, London SW17.

WILL all the disrespectful republicans who say they hate the monarchy and want it abolished go to work on the day of the royal funeral instead of having a day off to honour the Queen? No, I didn't think so.

JOHN HIBBERT, Peterborough, Cambs.

FOR those who foul-mouth the monarchy, surely there's space in the Tower of London.

Name and address supplied.

the Radio 2 listener. I haven't listened to the station as much for years.

Can it stay like this? BBC bosses please take note.

ROD CLULOW, Littleover, Derbys.

WHAT a wonderful and respectful tribute to the Queen on Radio 2 on Saturday. Seven hours in the afternoon and early evening of mellow music and tributes presented by consummate professionals Ken Bruce and Steve Wright.

It set the perfect tone to reflect the national mood.

When it came to something as important as this, the BBC relied on its experienced presenters as it knew they could cope with the pressure.

It just goes to show the BBC is wrong to getting rid of Steve Wright In The Afternoon.

An unbelievable decision considering he has the highest ratings on the network.

GLENN WILLIAMS, Coventry.

In step with ER

I WAS born a few days after George VI died. My father, sent to register my birth, was instructed to name me Julia. He returned with a certificate in the name of Elizabeth!

My life has run alongside that of the Queen. I married in the Silver Jubilee year and my initials became ER.

I celebrated my 70th birthday and 45th wedding anniversary along with the Platinum Jubilee. I feel

blessed to have had the Queen throughout my lifetime.

ELIZABETH RUSSO, Sidcup, Kent.

Poignant anthem

AT THE end of the church service we sang the National Anthem: God Save The King.

It felt strange and my mind went back to 1952 when, as a 12-year-old, I had exactly the same sensation when I first sang God Save The Queen.

ALAN SMITH, Cheltenham, Glos.

Royal animal lover

I WAS at a royal garden party when the Queen, resplendent in yellow, approached me and looked closely at my brooch.

Despite being told before the event not to speak to her, I told her it was a picture of my beloved cat, who had died a few days earlier.

She said how painful it was to lose our animals and gave me one of her famous smiles.

ANGELA PRUSS, Chigwell, Essex.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

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cancel football and Last Night of the Proms?

FOOTBALL should have been given the same opportunity as golf and cricket to pay tribute to the Queen.

MIKE COX, Highworth, Wilts.

I AM not a football fan who goes to matches, but I was looking forward to thousands of fans giving it their all in tribute to the Queen. It would have brought tears to our eyes. The long reign of the mother of our nation should be celebrated, so rejoice instead of being morbid.

TERRY WEBSTER, Wakefield, W. Yorks.

WOULD the Queen really have wanted the day of her funeral to be a Bank Holiday? I believe she would have realised the inevitable disruption this will cause, such as the cancellation of hospital appointments.

What was the point of postponing football matches and other sporting events as a mark of respect? The games should have gone ahead with the players wearing black armbands, singing the

National Anthem along with the fans and a one-minute silence before the start of the match. What happened at the Test match at the Oval was an impeccably conducted mark of respect.

RAY MORRISS, Sanderstead, Surrey.

WHILE the death of the Queen is undoubtedly sad, it is important to many that life carries on as normal. She fully deserves a great farewell but the excessive number of days of mourning and cancellation of events is not in the interests of businesses and individuals. The postponing of football matches and local events will do great damage to many. Lost income to coach firms, catering businesses, bars and restaurants is not what they need when they are struggling to survive after the Covid economic downturn. I am sure the Queen would have wanted life to continue as normal.

KARL BUSHELL, Yarnton, Oxon.

LIKE Harry Mount, I think it was a great shame to cancel the Last Night of the Proms (Mail). The finale of the greatest musical festival in the world could have been a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the life of the Queen. It could have been adapted easily for the occasion. I feel sorry for the audience who had bought tickets for this event and for those, like me, who were looking forward to watching it on TV.

EILEEN BRISTOW, Dorking, Surrey.

THE Last Night of the Proms is broadcast around the world and so would have been a chance for expats and our friends to come together to remember the Queen. We could also have shown our support for our new King. All those wonderful patriotic songs, such as Rule Britannia, Land Of Hope And Glory and Jerusalem, would have brought us together, given a sense of pride and ensured we forget any differences.

TRICIA CANNON, Newport, Shropshire.

Straight to the POINT



■ THERE are more than enough bunches of flowers in front of the royal palaces. Instead of adding to them, donate the money to a charity close to the Queen's heart.

NICK WOOTTON, Wallasey, Wirral.

■ SCOTLAND has done the Queen proud with a beautiful and fitting tribute. Wonderful organisation in a remarkably short time.

DAVID WOOLLARD, Folksworth, Cambs.

■ THE Queen loved Scotland, so in her memory, stop the continuing plea for another independence referendum and keep the United Kingdom.

PENNY SPENCER, Bridge, Kent.

■ I HOPE the England football squad are able to learn the new words to the National Anthem before their next international.

EDWARD HARTIGAN, Dukinfield, Gtr Manchester.

■ SHE kept her promise, so the Queen should be remembered as Elizabeth The True.

IAN MOYS, Padiham, Lancs.

■ TINY lady, giant person.

KEITH JENNINGS, Addlestone, Surrey.

■ WE SHOULD have a new annual Bank Holiday called Elizabeth Day.

MIKE SEABROOK, Runcorn, Cheshire.

■ I AM astonished at illiterate TV subtitles. In a report about the royal funeral, the Queen was referred to as the Clean.

JOE SWINDELLS, Liverpool.

■ I HAVE complained to the BBC about these subtitles: a 'paper' is going to play a lament and the 'oafs' Her Majesty made.

JANET PELL, address supplied.

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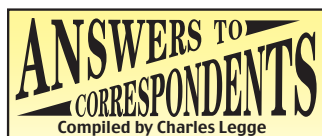
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QUESTION Has a prisoner escaped thanks to a file hidden in a cake?

THE most famous cake-aided jail break must be that of Eamon de Valera, the Irish Republican leader. He was imprisoned in Lincoln Jail for his role in the so-called German Plot — an alleged conspiracy in May 1918 between Sinn Féin and the German Empire.

In the prison exercise yard, he spotted a side door to freedom. He got his hands on the prison chaplain's master key while assisting at Mass and made a wax impression using candles.

Fellow inmate Sean Milroy drew a cartoon postcard entitled Sean's Troubles at the top and Christmas Tragedies at the bottom. The main picture showed a drunken man outside a door holding a giant copy of the master key and saying: 'Can't get in.'

The bottom corner featured the man, jailed and sober, peering through an accurate sketch of the keyhole, accompanied by the words: 'Can't get out.'

Incredibly, this got past prison guards and was delivered to confederates on the outside. A duplicate key was smuggled into the prison in a cake.

However, the wax must have shrunk before the drawing was made as De Valera later wrote: 'As I examined the joy at having got [the key] it was qualified by a feeling that it was too small.'

Another cartoon was posted with the key impression disguised as the centre of an ornate Celtic pattern. A second key was smuggled into the prison, but this didn't work either.

So an oblong fruit cake containing a blank key and set of files was dispatched. At 7.40pm on February 3, 1919, De Valera, Milroy and a third man, Sean McGarry, used a key cut by fellow inmate Peter DeLoughry to escape.

Top-ranking Republicans, including Michael Collins and Harry Boland, were among those waiting to spirit them away.

De Valera travelled in a series of cars to Worksop, Sheffield, Manchester and Liverpool. From there, dressed as a priest, he sailed back to Ireland.

He served as Taoiseach — Irish prime minister — on three occasions from 1937 to 1959 and was Irish president from 1959 to 1973.

Martin Connelly, Cardiff.

QUESTIONS

Q: What is the stone in the middle of Chester racecourse?

M. Springer, Reading, Berks.

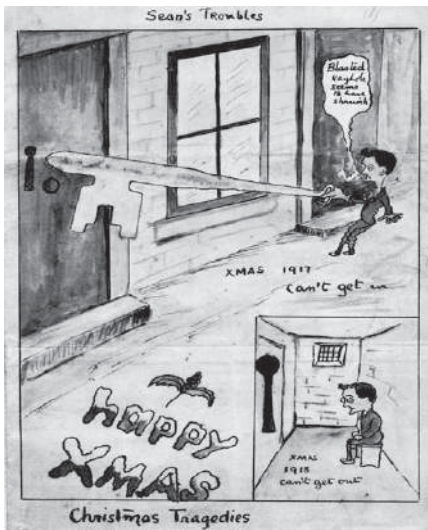
Q: How is a new reservoir filled?

Mrs Carol Exley, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Q: Did Anne Boleyn miscarry a deformed baby boy towards the end of her marriage to Henry VIII?

L. Phillips, Diss, Norfolk.

Great prison bake-out...



Key to escape: Sean Milroy's postcard

I VISITED a friend in Exeter prison on his birthday. I carried a folder in which there was an A4 sheet printed with a picture of his favourite lemon meringue and birthday candles.

I was stopped by a prison officer and asked what it was. 'A file with a cake in it,' I replied.

He failed to see the funny side and confiscated it. My friend never received his birthday cake but, since his release, we have often dined out on the story!

Nigel Trickey, Watford, Herts.

QUESTION If the Earth was shrunk to fit in your palm, would it feel as smooth as a billiard ball?

IN FACT, it would be even smoother. A standard snooker ball is 52.5mm in diameter with a tolerance of plus/minus 0.05mm.

For the purposes of the question, we can assume the water in the oceans is discarded in the shrinking process.

The greatest variations from smooth would be the summit of Mount Everest, 8,848m above sea level, or plus 0.007 per cent of the Earth's diameter, and the bottom of the Mariana Trench, 10,911m below sea level, or minus 0.009 per cent of the diameter.

These proportions would remain constant if the Earth were reduced to fit in the palm of the hand, but it would be smooth to a tolerance of a factor of ten greater than that of a snooker ball.

Because of the effect of its rotation, the

Earth is not quite a perfect sphere. The diameter at the equator is 12,756km compared with the diameter at the poles of 12,713.6km.

A shrunken Earth would not roll in the same way as a snooker ball, but would come to rest with its polar axis perpendicular to the surface of the table.

Tony Cater, Grays, Essex.

QUESTION What was the first country to recognise U.S. independence?

THE first official treaties signed by the U.S. were the Treaty of Amity and Commerce and the Treaty of Alliance signed with France on behalf of Louis XVI on February 6, 1778.

However, some historians point to a declaration made by Sultan Sidi Muhammad Ben Abdullah in December 20, 1777, which allowed vessels sailing under the U.S. flag to enter Moroccan ports.

However, though the Sultan personally recognised the U.S., there wasn't a formal bilateral treaty until 1787.

A key diplomatic aim of the rebels in the American Revolutionary War with Britain was to be officially recognised as a sovereign entity by a great power.

France was the obvious choice: Britain's old enemy was still smarting having lost substantial North American territory during the French and Indian War, 1754-1763.

At first, France was nervous to show support openly and risk another war with Britain. Instead, it used the shell company Roderigue Hortalez & Co to covertly funnel money, arms and munitions to the rebels.

American victory over the British in the Battle of Saratoga in 1777 convinced the French that the new state would win the war and the 1778 treaties were signed in Paris.

The American signatories were Silas Deane, Arthur Lee and Benjamin Franklin. Signing for France was Conrad Alexandre Gerard, the Secretary of His Majesty's Council of State.

Treaties were signed by the Netherlands on April 19, 1782, and Spain on February 20, 1783.

The Definitive Treaty Of Peace Between The Kingdom Of Great Britain And The United States Of America was signed and sealed in the Parisian Hotel d'York on September 3, 1783.

Germaine Walters, London E11.

■ IS THERE a question to which you want to know the answer? Or do you know the answer to a question here? Write to: Charles Legge, Answers To Correspondents, Daily Mail, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT; or email charles.legge@dailymail.co.uk. A selection is published, but we're unable to enter into individual correspondence.

TODAY'S RECIPE: Roast chicken with dill & potatoes

TWIST on a family favourite. Serves: 4.

Ingredients

Small bunch of dill
50g unsalted butter
1 garlic clove, crushed
1 whole chicken
1 lemon, halved
800g red-skinned potatoes, in chunks
1 tbsp olive oil



Method

1 Heat oven to 200c/180c fan/gas 6. Set aside dill stems and chop fronds. Reserve some as a garnish and mix rest with butter and garlic.

2 Push two-thirds of garlic butter under skin of chicken breasts and legs. Spread rest over skin. Season. Put chicken in a roasting tin and squeeze over lemon halves, then put them in cavity with dill stalks. Roast for 20 minutes.

3 Reduce oven to 180c/160c fan/gas 4. Put potatoes around chicken, drizzle over oil and sprinkle with a little salt. Turn potatoes so they are coated in oil and roasting juices. Roast for an hour, turning potatoes occasionally until brown and chicken is cooked through. Sprinkle over reserved dill leaves to serve.

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Tue 25 Cork (from Cobh), Ireland (arrive midday)
Wed 26 St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly
Thu 27 St. Peter Port, Guernsey
Fri 28 Le Havre, France
Sat 29 Arrive in London Tilbury

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JULY 2023

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Thu 6 Belfast, Northern Ireland
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Single cabins are available from £1,019

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AUGUST 2023

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Fri 11 St. Peter Port, Guernsey
Sat 12 Rouen, France (arrive midday – overnight)
Sun 13 Rouen, France
Mon 14 Portsmouth, England
Wed 16 Invergordon, Scotland (arrive midday)
Thu 17 John O'Groats (from Scrabster), Scotland
Fri 18 Portree, Isle of Skye
Sat 19 Tobermory, Isle of Mull
Sun 20 Belfast, Northern Ireland
Mon 21 Arrive in Liverpool

Dates not mentioned are spent relaxing at sea

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CABIN	GRADE	FULL FARE (PP)	READER OFFERS LTD FARE (PP)
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A SICILIAN SIZZLER

Pretty Palermo is perfect in autumn, with fewer crowds and temperatures in the mid-20s

THE Colombian novelist Gabriel Garcia Marquez said: 'Going to Sicily is better than going to the moon.' That might be overdoing it, but the largest island in the Mediterranean has an enigmatic element to it, with its baking hot interior, religious fervour and associations with organised crime.

Now pedestrianised, the historic core of its magnificent capital Palermo is a delight — at the centre of which is the Piazza Pretoria — and when taking a tour, I'm enchanted by the mighty buildings and rich history of this powerful port city.

'My home town is like a lasagna with 16 layers,' says my guide Gabriella.

In her view, the most tasty influences are from the heydays of Arab, Norman and Spanish rule, which are reflected in star sights such as the dazzling 12th-century mosaics adorning the Cappella Palatina in the Palazzo dei Normanni and the Quattro Canti, a Baroque crossroads from 1620. This is where haughty coats-of-arms oversee a bustling stream of awestruck sightseers and teenagers whizzing around on e-scooters.

Life here is affable and inviting, although you do wonder what goes on behind all those heavy wooden doors with solid brass knockers.

And what about the Mafia? Their criminal activities reached a peak here with the murder of two judges in 1992, but Gabriella is unfazed. 'They're still there but with a lower profile,' she says.

Since that grim year, the city has undergone a remarkable transformation that kicked off in 2015 when nine historic sights were awarded World Heritage status

and continued with Palermo's designation as Italy's Capital of Culture three years later.

For an overview of the historic centre, I climb the roughly 140 steps to the cupola of the Santissimo Salvatore church, which at times is like ascending a corkscrew.

Here, you can enjoy a 360-degree panorama over a sea of terracotta-tiled roofs punctuated by domes, belfries and towers that rise up like bookmarks from the city's illustrious past.

Nearby, the Santa Caterina

church is worth a nose around for its beyond-OTT Sicilian Baroque interiors that were hidden from view for 150 years.

With massed cherubs, gleaming silver angels, huge barley-twist pillars and not an inch undecorated, it is an eye-popping reminder of Italian flamboyance.

Then there's Capo market, a narrow lane through which Sicily's bountiful produce flows like a gastronomical river. Jewel-like tomatoes, moist slabs of fresh tuna, divinely sweet apricots and the intriguing, 4ft-long squash called *cucuzza* — I yearn to take it all home, but settle for a reviving glass of pomegranate juice for €2.

Fortunately, there are plenty of small, unpretentious restaurants where you can try all this, such as La Galleria, just a skullcap's throw from the Cattedrale. Here, we

lunch outdoors at wooden tables with vases of sunflowers and a view of the neighbour's washing.

As the afternoon heat kicks in, it is bliss to retreat to my bayside hotel, Villa Igia, just a 15-minute drive north. Opened a little over a year ago by Rocco Forte Hotels, this stately, Grade I-listed residence dates from 1900 and comes with 100 exquisitely composed rooms, enchanting terraced gardens, fabulous salons adorned with art nouveau murals and devoted staff dressed in immaculate uniforms.

It's not cheap, but its restful, refined atmosphere is the perfect antidote to the famous grittiness of the city. All in all, Palermo is ideal for an authentic Sicilian short break combining cultural

wonders, terrific food and pool-side downtime.

I even manage to squeeze in a dip in the bewitching Tyrrhenian Sea at the mile-long sandy beach of Mondello, a 15-minute taxi ride north. In July and August, it's as packed as a tin of anchovies but in early November, when the island experiences the 'Summer of St Martin' (like an Indian summer), it can be warm enough to swim.

Indeed, Palermo will warm the cockles of the hardest of hearts.

TRAVEL FACTS

ELEGANT Resorts offers three nights at Villa Igia from £1,199pp, including flights, private transfers and breakfast (01244 897581, elegantresorts.co.uk).



Ancient and modern: The central Piazza Pretoria and the Santa Caterina church behind. Inset: The pool at new hotel Villa Igia

by NIGEL TISDALL

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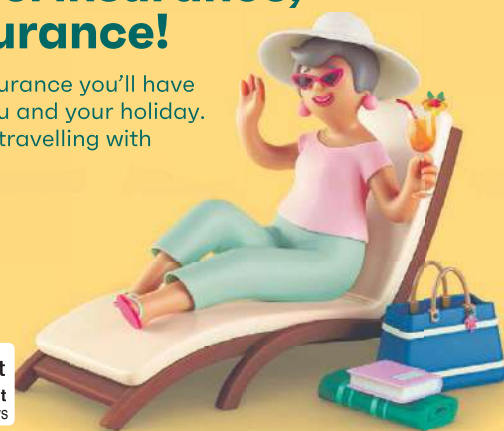
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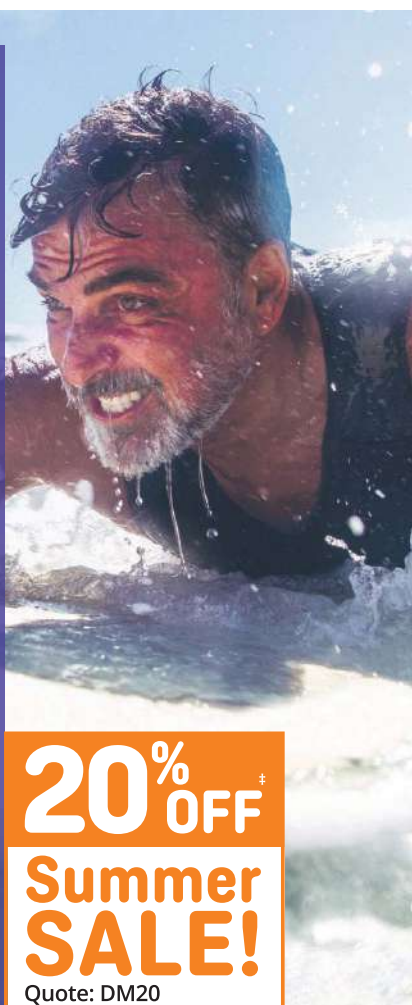


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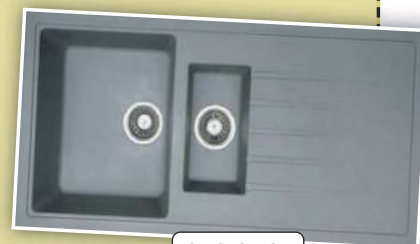
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3.6 per cent
unemployment in
the UK - lowest
since 1974

by John-Paul Ford Rojas

SHARES on Wall Street tumbled last night as fresh fears over inflation paved the way for another round of bumper rate hikes.

On a brutal night for financial markets, the dollar also soared as US inflation data for August came in at a higher than expected 8.3pc yesterday.

And in the UK, figures showing a fall in unemployment to 3.6pc, the lowest level since 1974, signalled a tight labour market as in-demand workers push for higher wages. The US Federal Reserve and the Bank of England will be focused on trying to cool rampant inflation when they announce rates decisions on Wednesday and Thursday next week.

Markets are pencilling in 0.75 percentage point hikes for both. That would mean a hat-trick of super-sized increases

Wall Street plunges as US inflation shock sets scene for bumper rate hikes

in September after the European Central Bank also chose a three-quarter point rise last week. Neil Wilson, chief market analyst for Markets.com, said the US figures 'failed to live up to hopes it would show a real sign of cooling in inflation pressure' and pointed to a 'prolonged hiking cycle' for the Fed.

Michael Hewson, chief market analyst at CMC Markets, said the inflation numbers 'put a rocket under the dollar'.

The pound fell back during a volatile session from a two-week high of more than \$1.17 to as low as \$1.1498. The euro slipped to as low as \$0.9971. Stock markets turned

red on the prospect of more steep US rate hikes putting pressure on borrowers. The FTSE100 gave up early gains to fall by 1.2pc, or 87.17 points, to 7385.86 while on Wall Street the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell nearly 4pc, the S&P 500 was down more than 4pc and the tech-heavy Nasdaq tumbled more than 5pc.

The Fed has been hiking rates to combat inflation, which hit a four-decade high of 9.1pc in June. August's reading of 8.3pc was down from 8.5pc in July. But it was higher than the 8.1pc expected.

Crucially, the 'core' rate of inflation - stripping out volatile energy and food

prices - climbed from 5.9pc to 6.3pc amid rising costs for rents and healthcare.

In the UK, the Bank of England has made clear it will keep raising interest rates to try to bring down inflation, even if it brings tough consequences. Official figures today are expected to show inflation remains high having hit 10.1pc in July.

Yesterday's UK figures showed the proportion of working-age people out of the labour force due to long-term sickness hit its highest level since 2005.

A smaller workforce potentially adds to wage inflation pressures as employers look to hire new staff.

China buyout of chip firm 'to be reversed'

Rees-Mogg plots action following takeover of Newport Wafer Fab

by John-Paul Ford Rojas

JACOB Rees-Mogg could be set to reverse a controversial Chinese-backed takeover of a British chip firm as he grapples with wider concerns about the hollowing out of industry.

The Government plans to order Dutch firm Nexperia - owned by China's Wingtech - to reduce its stake in Newport Wafer Fab substantially, the Financial Times reported.

A decision from the Business Secretary is due by October 3 and the South Wales firm's former owner is said to be orchestrating a bid, together with private equity group Palladian Investment Partners, to buy it back.

Former science minister George Freeman backed the intervention, saying: 'The Government is right to take steps to restore Newport Wafer Fab.'

Also likely to be on Rees-Mogg's agenda is whether to call in a takeover of London-listed software firm Aveva for closer scrutiny. France's Schneider, which already holds a majority stake in the Cambridge-based firm, is closing in on a £9bn agreement to swallow up the rest of its stock.

Under takeover rules, Schneider must make a formal offer



Plan: The Business Secretary

by a week today, having disclosed last month that it was exploring the move.

Aveva shares rose 3.1pc, or 91p, to 3050p yesterday as the deadline approached.

The deal could be subject to further scrutiny given Schneider's joint venture with Chinese firm Delixi Group.

The decisions crystallise the delicate balance Rees-Mogg must strike between showing the UK is open for business and protecting key industries.

Nexperia, which previously held a 14pc stake in Newport Wafer Fab, took over the rest of the company last year in a £63m deal. The firm makes semiconductor 'wafers' which are then shipped to the Philippines and

sliced up for use in products such as cars and smartphones.

Freeman, who opposes the takeover, said Newport Wafer Fab was the 'jewel in the crown' of a cluster of chip firms in South Wales.

'If we are serious about becoming a science and technology superpower we can't sit back and allow our top technology - with huge strategic geopolitical importance - to be bought out by hostile states engaged in economic war like Russia or China,' he said.

The United States, meanwhile, is reportedly looking to broaden curbs on shipments to China of chips used for artificial intelligence, as well as chipmaking tools. Washington has already sent letters to big US chip companies Nvidia and Advanced Micro Devices instructing them to halt shipments of several AI chips to China unless they obtain licences.

Susannah Streeter, Hargreaves Lansdown's senior investment and markets analyst, said there would 'inevitably be cooperation with the US' on chip technology. The Government declined to comment on the FT report. Nexperia declined to comment. The Mail has contacted Palladian for comment.

Joules dives after talks with Next collapse

JOULES shares dived after Next pulled out of talks to invest £15m in the 'yummy mummy' fashion brand.

The struggling retailer entered discussions with Next last month about the high street giant taking a 25pc stake.

But a subsequent profit warning saw Joules' shares crash - meaning Next's investment would have been worth more than half the entire business. Joules yesterday confirmed talks over the investment had 'ceased'.

Shares tumbled 49.6pc, or 10.25p, to 10.4p.

The company has brought in former Compare The Market boss Jonathon Brown as chief executive, replacing the ousted Nick Jones.

On his first day in charge yesterday, Brown brought company founder and non-executive director Tom Joule back as an executive to oversee new ranges.

An investment by Next would have been a lifeline for Joules, which has been in discussions with banks over its finances.



by Archie Mitchell

WHEN Zillah Byng-Thorne took the reins at Future in April 2014, it was riddled with debt, worth £30m and on the brink of collapse.

But the 'magazine queen' – as she has been dubbed – has since transformed the publisher into a £2.2bn empire of 250 titles including everything from Country Life and Marie Claire to TechRadar and FourFourTwo.

Shares have soared around 1000pc on her watch, making Future one of the UK's best-performing listed companies. And yesterday they jumped 5.6pc, or 96p, to 1818p following Future's latest update.

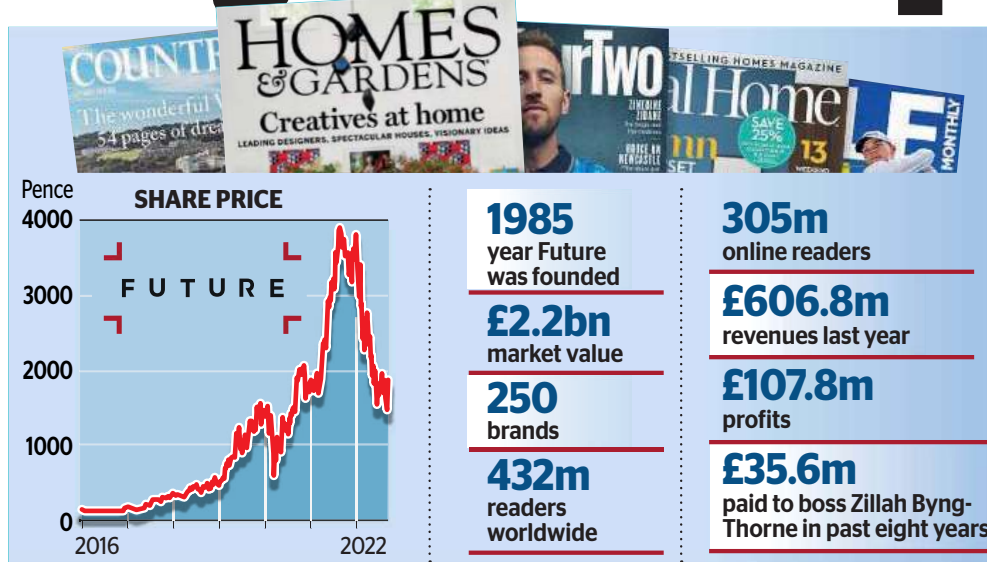
The publisher said reader numbers were rising again after a post-lockdown wobble, and advertisers were spending more.

Profit for the year to September 30 will be at the top end of market expectations ranging from £266.4m to £270.7m.

The company doubled down on its update in June when it upgraded its profit forecast, saying the 'encouraging trading' has continued.

Speaking to the Daily Mail, Byng-Thorne (pictured) said: 'We have built a consistent track record of doubling our business every couple of years, and are excited about our ability to sustain our growth as we aim to reach one in two people online in the US. Despite a tough wider macroeconomic environment, we're performing strongly and carrying positive momentum, so we're

Future's bright for magazine empire



feeling very good about our future prospects.' Future's update sets it firmly on the front foot again after it was rocked in the first half of the year by a sharp decline in its shares.

Investors feared a drop off in advertising revenue as businesses pulled back spending. It was also

caught by the global sell-off in tech stocks that has hit companies including Netflix, Facebook and Google-owner Alphabet.

Despite falling 50pc this year, shares are still worth a third more than before Covid struck and more than ten times their value when Byng-

Thorne took over. Its meteoric rise has been driven by its strategy of picking up ailing magazine brands cheaply and turning their performance around. Its technology platform lets it quickly boost the online offering of firms struggling to keep up with the digital transition.

It is also the dominant player in many special interest areas, owning the go-to websites for gamers, photographers, space enthusiasts and more.

This means advertisers can effectively target users who are already interested in an area and minimise waste. That ability has helped to insulate Future from a global cutback in advertising spending.

Future's three biggest brands are Tech Radar, review website Tom's Guide and GamesRadar. It has 305m online users around the world, with around half in the UK and half in the US. It reaches half of all internet users in the UK and a third of those in the US. It is expanding its foot-

print in America and wants to increase its reach to half of internet users there. To fulfil this ambition, it bought celebrity style guide website Who What Wear this year, absorbing its 12m online users and 10m social media followers.

But Byng-Thorne also recognises the importance for some brands of holding on to print products, and Future still produces magazines of titles including Country Life, The Week and Homes & Gardens.

Roddy Davidson, from Shore Capital, said Byng-Thorne and her team deserve 'a lot of credit'

'Built a consistent track record'

for their turnaround of the business. And she has been rewarded handsomely, taking home £35.6m in the past eight years.

Her pay has attracted criticism, however. At Future's past two shareholder meetings, it has faced significant rebellions over a bonus package which could net Byng-Thorne, already one of Britain's best paid chief executives, up to £40m.

In February, 55pc of shareholders voted against the scheme,

while a year earlier it was opposed by a third.

Hargreaves Lansdown analyst Susannah Streeter said: 'It's been a remarkable tenure so far for Zillah who has turned the page for Future into fresh chapters of growth.'

'Rather than offering magazines designed to cater for mass consumption, there has been a razor-sharp focus on creating respected content on specialist subjects, such as gaming, which has been a big draw for advertising partners.'

Davidson said the latest update showed the 'unjustifiable' fall in Future's shares was driven by market jitters, not the performance of the business, adding: 'The business has transformed from a publisher heavily reliant on print advertising to a multi-platform media business generating the largest proportion of its revenue from digital advertising.'

Berenberg analyst Edward James, meanwhile, said after its latest update Future had 'again proved more resilient than the market feared'.

That will be music to the ears of Future shareholders – and could pave the way to another handsome pay day for the magazine queen.

Hargreaves faces legal fight over collapse of Woodford

by Lucy White

SAVERS who lost £1bn when Neil Woodford's flagship fund collapsed will soon have the chance to pursue Hargreaves Lansdown for damages.

Thousands who ploughed money into the Woodford Equity Income Fund (WEIF) have been pondering ways to claw back their lost cash.

Now law firm RGL Management is preparing to file a claim within weeks against investment platform Hargreaves Lansdown and Link, which was supposed to supervise Woodford's management of his funds, the Daily Mail understands.

The lawsuit comes as pressure on parties involved in the Woodford scandal is beginning



Failed fund: Neil Woodford

to grow. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) confirmed this week it was 'likely' to force Australia-listed Link to pay a £306m penalty to WEIF investors.

This is the first time that the FCA has hinted it will penalise firms over the Woodford scandal, and said it was still open to ordering 'other parties' to pay

the redress to customers. But in a move likely to infuriate Woodford victims, Link said yesterday it would consider challenging the regulator's fine through the courts if necessary.

The FCA's probe into Woodford's downfall has also been examining the role of Hargreaves Lansdown, which recommended WEIF to investors right up until the fund's suspension in June 2019, and Woodford himself.

The FCA declined to comment on whether either of these parties might be penalised.

Hargreaves Lansdown has denied any wrongdoing.

WEIF was frozen by Link after a flood of investors tried to pull their money out, following a run of poor performance.

Get Your **NEW** Equity Release & Later-Life Mortgages Guide

written by
Money Mail editor
Victoria Bischoff

The Daily Mail has produced a comprehensive and practical guide, which will help explain everything you need to know about equity release – and it's FREE to all our readers.

Equity release may involve a home reversion plan or a lifetime mortgage which is secured against your property. Request your personalised illustration to understand the features and risks.

Equity release requires paying off any existing mortgage. Any money released, plus accrued interest, is to be repaid upon death or moving into long-term care.



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Kwasi dashes for growth

ALASER focus on growth by Kwasi Kwarteng echoes past attempts by government to escape from the perceived malign influence of Treasury orthodoxy.

Way back in 1964, Harold Wilson (by some accounts Queen Elizabeth II's favourite prime minister) sought to unleash the white heat of technology and established the Department of Economic Affairs under George Brown. It eventually folded and the Treasury triumphed in the face of pressure on sterling.

Gordon Brown, who arrived at the Treasury bursting with ideas which included an independent Bank of England, found himself in conflict with Terry Burns, who subsequently resigned.

Kwarteng chose to dispense with the services of top mandarin Tom Scholar before his foot was barely over the doorstep of Number 11.

In his second term as Permanent Secretary, Scholar possessed shiny spurs earned in the financial crisis of 2007-09 and during Covid-19. His Treasury orthodoxy of fiscal discipline was viewed as overriding all else and cost him his job.

In a vitriolic attack, former Treasury minister Lord Agnew – who resigned from Boris

Alex Brummer

CITY EDITOR

Johnson's government over Whitehall waste in Covid – wrote in The Times that Scholar's departure should be 'a cause for celebration'. The ambition of Kwarteng to return growth to an average of 2.5pc a year – the long-term average before the financial crisis – is laudable. It certainly has not been helped by the way in which the Treasury went gung-ho for tax increases in the wake of the pandemic.

The March 2021 budget began the process of reclaiming cash for the Treasury with a freeze on personal allowances until 2025-26 raising £19.1bn and the proposed rise in corporation tax from 19pc to 25pc from 2023 yielding £47bn over the forecast period.

This was followed in September by the new health and social care levy seeking to

generate £12bn a year. It was partly rescinded for the less well-off in the spring of this year. The UK's macho-fiscal policy has contrasted with much of the G7. The constant refrain from the Treasury has been this was necessary because of the mounting interest rate bill on the national debt.

The UK was in a different position to its G7 compatriots because 25pc of its bond issue is inflation-linked. That's true. But in that the decision to fund using inflation-linked stock is made by the Chancellor – in concert with officials and the UK debt management office – it does not look brilliant.

In the terms of the normally polite ways of Whitehall, Kwarteng's approach looks overly aggressive. But he is determined to give the supply side of the economy a chance.

Weak Link

CITY enforcer, the Financial Conduct Authority, is notorious for a spineless approach to alleged offenders, most recently bankers responsible for the collapse of HBOS. It is encouraging that chief executive Nikhil Rathi, who has vowed to overhaul performance, is taking a tough line with Link Fund Solutions over its role in the implosion of the Woodford Equity Income Fund three years ago.

The FCA's probe of Woodford is uncompleted but the decision to seek an indem-

nity of £306m from Link suggests it is alert to the losses suffered. Its decision will be fodder for City law firms which aim to tie disciplinary action up in legal knots.

Link Group, the Aussie parent, has issued a statement challenging the FCA's decision claiming any liabilities are the responsibility of Link Fund Solutions, not the parent.

Good try. But that's like saying because your teenager smashed up the family car it is their responsibility not yours or that of your insurance company. The FCA's tough stance will be watched closely by Neil Woodford, Hargreaves Lansdown, which exposed so many of its clients to Woodford, official depository Northern Trust and all involved in a £3.7bn debacle.

Food for thought

PRIVATE equity outfit Clayton, Dubilier & Rice must be regretting that it became involved in a bidding war Morrisons.

Instead of being able to use its strong balance sheet and smart management to take Morrisons to the next level, it finds that in an age when consumers are price driven, the Bradford firm's market share has been overhauled by German discounter Aldi.

It is to be trusted CD&R won't engage in reckless financial engineering, destroying Morrisons' farm-to-supermarket model as it overcomes a whopping interest rate bill.

ANALYSTS CAST DOUBT OVER £74BN PORSCHE VALUATION



PORSCHE is worth far less than the lofty valuations being touted ahead of its listing on the stock market, analysts have warned.

The German sports car maker, which is owned by Volkswagen (VW) and counts British tennis star Emma Raducanu (pictured) as a brand ambassador, is planning to float in Frankfurt in the next few weeks.

A valuation of between £53bn and £74bn has been suggested in

what would be one of Europe's biggest stock market listings.

But analysts at HSBC said it is actually worth between £39bn and £49bn.

VW is planning to list a 12.5pc stake in Porsche and says there has been huge interest from investors wanting to take part.

Big battalion institutions will be at the forefront of the listing, but VW is also offering shares to retail investors.

Ocado crashes as sales set for first ever fall

by Archie Mitchell

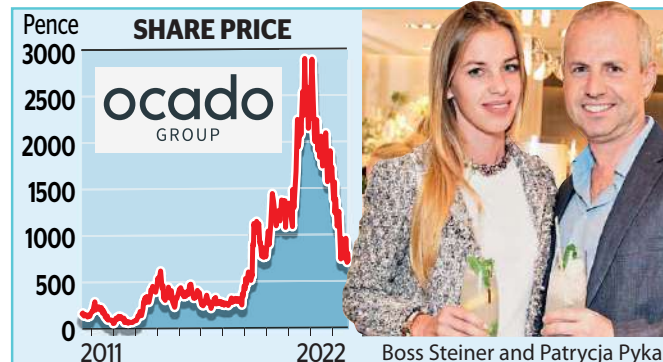
OCADO shares crashed after it warned that it will suffer its first ever fall in annual sales.

The retailer, half owned by Marks & Spencer, said customers are cutting their basket sizes and switching to cheaper products as the soaring cost of living bites.

And the online supermarket warned profit would suffer because of the rising price of fuel and dry ice – used to keep groceries cool – which could lead to a £45m hit.

Shares fell 14.6pc, or 116p, to 679.2p. M&S, whose products account for around a third of sales at Ocado Retail, suffered a slide in shares of 3.8pc, or 4.8p, to 121.9p.

Ocado shares are worth less than a quarter of their pandemic-fuelled highs. It has continuously increased sales as online supermarket shopping gains popularity, and a surge in demand during lockdowns saw shares soar, briefly topping £28.



Since lockdowns ended, demand for online shopping has eased. Meanwhile, questions have persisted about the value of Ocado's automated warehouse technology.

Ocado, whose chief executive is Tim Steiner, who is in a relationship with Polish model Patrycja Pyka, said sales in the three months to August 28 rose 2.7pc to £532m, driven by a record number of customers.

The increase came in spite of the average order shrinking by 6pc to £116, compared with

£123 a year earlier. And figures from data firm Kantar laid bare the impact of rising living costs on some supermarkets.

Waitrose sales tumbled in the three months to September 4. But sales at Aldi jumped 18.7pc, helping it climb above Morrisons to become the UK's fourth biggest supermarket. Lidl was the fastest-growing with sales jumping 20.9pc in the period.

AJ Bell investment director Russ Mould said Aldi joining the Big Four felt like a 'symbolic moment'.

M&C Saatchi in fresh bid rejection

M&C Saatchi has stressed again its rejection of the 'derisory' £254m takeover offer from its largest shareholder.

The advertising giant said it still urges shareholders to 'take no action' in response to the bid from rival Advanced AdVT (ADV).

M&C said all 18 members of its executive committee are opposed to the ADV offer. A spokesman said directors 'continue to believe the ADV offer is derisory'.

M&C's bosses also branded the bid as

carrying a 'high risk of damaging culture, triggering a talent exodus, revenue loss and value destruction'.

ADV last week said it had received acceptances for its offer for M&C Saatchi from shareholders owning 12.77pc of its issued share capital, and therefore controlled 22.59pc of M&C.

While rejecting ADV's advances, M&C has left the door open for a 247.2p-a-share offer from Next Fifteen Communications.

M&C shares fell 3.5pc, or 5.5p, to 153.5p.

Twitter investors back Musk deal

TWITTER shareholders have approved Elon Musk's £38bn buyout – despite the entrepreneur trying to wriggle out of the deal.

Investors in the social media giant backed Musk's offer in a vote yesterday.

This will come as a blow to the Tesla boss, who originally made an offer for Twitter in April but has since tried to drop it, claiming bosses misled him about the number of 'bots' and spam accounts on the site. Twitter has denied Musk's claims,

and has sued him in an attempt to force the deal to go ahead. Musk is countering, and a trial is set for October 17.

Meanwhile, Twitter whistleblower Peiter Zatko, its former head of security, gave evidence to US lawmakers yesterday claiming the company is 'misleading the public' about how secure it is. In his testimony to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Zatko painted Twitter as a company prioritising revenue above all else.

FTSE 100 7385.86 H:7672.40 L:6903.91 8717 1.17%	FTSE 250 19167.21 H:23896.65 L:18315.31 346.66 1.78%	FTSE All Share 4056.12 H:4296.96 L:3862.39 52.07 1.27%	DOW 31104.97 H:36799.65 L:29888.78 1276.37 3.94%	NIKKEI 28614.63 H:30511.71 L:24717.53 72.52 0.25%	HANG SENG 19326.86 H:26136.02 L:18415.08 35.39 0.18%	DAX 13188.95 H:16271.75 L:12401.20 213.32 1.59%	Brent Spot 92.76 H:123.58 L:88.00 1.94 2.05%	Gold 1706.55 H:1853.07 L:1697.05 19.25 1.12%
£/\$ 1.1532 H:1.3836 L:1.1469 0.0166	£/€ 1.1529 H:1.2102 L:1.1534 0.0022	Tourist Rates Aus\$1.61 Can\$1.45 €1 Buys	DenKr8.18 Euro€1.10	JpnY158.92 NZ\$1.78	SAR18.83 SwFr1.06	TurkI20.39 US\$1.12	WWW.TRAVELLEX.CO.UK FOR INDICATION USE ONLY	

Fever-Tree regains fizz as City breathes sigh of relief

FEVER-TREE shares regained some of their sparkle as its latest results left nervous investors breathing a sigh of relief.

Following a profit warning in July, the tonic maker said it continued to face a 'challenging' global environment.

Staff shortages at one of its bottlers in the US has forced its UK business to ramp up production to plug the gap.

This has increased freight costs as goods are shipped from across the Atlantic to the US.

The company also warned that glass would be in short supply in the second half of the year though it is working to reduce the impact in 2023. The company, which is valued at around £1.1bn, has seen its shares fall 62pc this year. But they rose 4.2pc, or 39.5p, to 988.5p yesterday as it reported a 14pc rise in revenues to £160.9m for the six months to the end of June.

With costs rising, profits fell 30pc to £17.6m. Despite this, Fever-Tree stuck to its guidance for the full year in a boost to shareholders. It expects revenue of £355m to

MARKET REPORT



By
**John
Abiona**

£365m and profit of £37.5m to £45m. Liberum said the company's foothold in international markets 'continues to be a source of optimism for the stock'.

Stock markets around the world slammed into reverse as investors bet another aggressive round of interest rate hikes was coming to combat rampant inflation.

Official figures in the United States showed inflation fell from 8.5pc in July to 8.3pc in August – but this was higher than expected and sent shockwaves through financial markets.

Having spent much of the day in positive territory, the **FTSE 100** fell 1.2pc, or 87.17 points, to 7385.86 and the **FTSE 250** slid 1.8pc, or

346.66 points, to 19167.21. Wall Street was also sharply lower. The inflation figures in the US overshadowed better news in the UK where unemployment fell to 3.6pc, the lowest since 1974.

In London, **BT** shares fell despite Deutsche Bank's view that the telecoms giant could benefit from scrapped tax rises, price rises on the back of rising inflation and a stronger sterling.

The broker raised the stock's rating to 'hold' from 'sell', but shares in **BT** dropped 1.2pc, or 1.75p, to 142.75p.

Among the mid-caps, fund manager **JTC** enjoyed a rise in revenue and profit as it hailed 'tremendous opportunities for the group moving forward'.

The company said it is 'confident' of delivering revenue and profit ahead of market expectations. In its half-year results, revenue soared 38.8pc to £93m while profit surged 27.3pc to £25.3m.

Analysts expect revenue for the year to hit £183m and profit to reach £62.6m. With results falling in line with their expectations,

Shore Capital reiterated its 'buy' rating as **JTC** shares climbed 9.75pc, or 75p, to 844p.

Shares in **Petra Diamonds** shimmered after the mining company more than doubled its profit to post record full-year results.

Petra reported a 103pc rise in profit to £229m (\$265m) for the year to the end of June.

This smashed analyst estimates of £206m (\$239m) and the company's previous record of £168m (\$195m) in 2018.

Having improved its cash flow by 91pc, Petra said it wants to reduce its debt and announced a tender offer for £130m (\$150m) which it expects would help save up to £13m (\$15m) a year in interest expenses. Shares rose 4.8pc, or 5p, to 110p.

There were also reasons to cheer for investors in **Oxford Nanopore** following the group's half-year results. The gene sequencing firm, which supplied Covid testing kits, said its revenue soared 107pc to £122.3m in the six months to the end of June. Shares rose 4.2pc, or 11.5p, to 283.5p.



STOCK WATCH



■ **TUNGSTEN West** is pressing ahead with plans to develop the Hemerdon mine near Plymouth it bought in 2019.

The Devon-based mining company agreed a royalty sale worth around £26m with a global mine royalty investment fund.

Tungsten plans to use this money – along with an additional £5m to £10m it hopes to secure – to finance the project which it expects to complete before the third quarter of next year. Shares rose 18.8pc, or 4.5p, to 28.5p.

Aerospace & Defence

Aston Martin	157.4	-15.2	1963.2	157.4
BAE Systems	794	+3.8	838.9	528.4
Chemring Gp	301.2	-1	367.2	256
Meggitt	798.4		798.4	732.8
QinetiQ	336.4	-1.4	394.4	243
Rolls-Royce	78.4	-2.8	147.2	71.4
TI Fluid Systems	146.4	-3.4	287.2	136

Banks

Banco Santander	223.8	-7.4	290.8	193.8
Bank of Georgia	2165	-40	2205	986
Barclays	172.4	-2	217.4	140.8
HSBC Hldgs	529.4	-6.8	567.4	359.4
Lloyds Banking	46.2	-2	55.8	41
NatWest Group	269.4	+4	269.4	192.8
Stan Chartered	612.4	-15	638.4	410
TBC Bank	1892	-20	1912	901
Virgin Money UK	155	-1.4	218.8	124.4

Beverages

Britvic	790.2	-12.2	949.2	741
C&C Group	173.8	-3.8	264.4	163.4
Coca-Cola HBC	1976	-24	2687	1460.2
Diageo	3804.4	-31.2	4103.2	3343

Chemicals

Croda Intnl	6820.4	-208	10410	5908
Elementis	112.2	-1.4	157.4	97
Johnson Mat	2017	-38	2763	1721
Synthomer	182.4	-10.2	524.2	182
Victrex	1783	-37	2538	1590

Construction & Materials

Balfour Beatty	339.8	-1	340.8	215.8
CRH	3177.2	-72	4002	2756.2
Genuit Group	349.2	-8	739	333
Grafton Gp	748.4	-16.4	1381	704
Ibstock	195.4	-5.8	219.4	154
Marshall	322.8	-17.8	819.2	319
Tymann	215.4	-9.2	444.2	211
Volution	346.2	-11	560	325

Electricity

Contour Global	255.2	-2	258	178
Drax Gp	730.4	-20	831.2	438.8
SSE	1793.4	-12.2	1920	1525

Electronic & Electrical Equipment

Halma	2138	-58	3216	1876.2
Morgan Advanced	248	-7	403	241.2
Oxford Instruments	2130	-35	2665	1760
Renishaw	3602	-48	5500	3444
Spectris	2889	-51	4083	2458

Equity Investment Instruments

3i Infrastructure	332	-3	366.2	304
Aberforth Smir Cos	1202	-22	1554	1144
AI Bell	275.8	-8.4	426.4	246.4
Alliance Trust	982.4	-20	1078	887
Allianz Tech	232	-15.2	370	200
Apax Global	162.4	-5.4	235	157.8
AVI Global Trust	189.4	-2.8	222	172
Baillie Giff Japan	746	-8	1100	662
Bankers InvTst	102.8	-2.4	125	95.2
BBGI Global	172.8	-18.8	180.8	158
Bellevue Hiltcher	172	-6.8	208	132.8
BlackRock Smr	1318	-40	2175	1254
BlkRockWldMining	622.4	-10	792	502
Caledonia Inv	3595	-105	4100	3230

TOP RISERS

	CLOSING PRICE	DAILY CHANGE	REASON
JTC	844.00	+9.75%	Upbeat results
Future	1818.00	+5.57%	Bullish outlook
Lancashire Holdings	547.50	+3.79%	Rally accelerates
Aveva	3050.00	+3.08%	Takeover talk
Abdn Private Equity	420.00	+2.44%	Buoyant portfolio

TOP FALLERS

	CLOSING PRICE	DAILY CHANGE	REASON
Ocado	679.20	-14.59%	Sales slump
Ferrexpo	157.60	-9.27%	Sentiment cools
Aston Martin	157.25	-8.97%	Sell-off continues
Bridgepoint	258.60	-8.10%	Industry woes
Integrafin	255.40	-6.86%	Sector concerns

TOP RISERS

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Integrafin	255.40	-6.86%	Sector concerns

TOP RISERS

	CLOSING PRICE	DAILY CHANGE	REASON
JTC	844.00	+9.75%	Upbeat results
Future	1818.00	+5.57%	Bullish outlook
Lancashire Holdings	547.50	+3.79%	Rally accelerates
Aveva	3050.00	+3.08%	Takeover talk
Abdn Private Equity	420.00	+2.44%	Buoyant portfolio

TOP FALLERS

	CLOSING PRICE	DAILY CHANGE	REASON
Ocado	679.20	-14.59%	Sales slump
Ferrexpo	157.60	-9.27%	Sentiment cools
Aston Martin	157.25	-8.97%	Sell-off continues
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Worcester lifeline

Hope for players and staff as unnamed buyer closes in on deal for stricken club

WORCESTER Warriors have confirmed they are close to agreeing a sale of the club as the Gallagher Premiership outfit continue to battle for survival.

Yesterday all of Worcester's players and staff were told a takeover — which would see current owners Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham sell a majority share — was close to completion.

The final details of the deal with an unnamed buyer were being looked over by Worcester's lawyers last night.

The buyer is not the consortium fronted by former Worcester chief executive Jim O'Toole, who yesterday seemed to admit defeat in his bid to buy the club with a cryptic social media post.

Goldring and Whittingham, who have lost the trust of Worcester's players and staff after a summer of upheaval and uncertainty, are expected to retain a minority share in the Sixways outfit when the deal is concluded.

'Warriors can confirm that owners Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham have agreed the terms of the sale of the club to an interested party,' Worcester said.

'The heads of terms are now with the legal representatives of the respective parties who are going through the detail of the agreement.'

'We have been working closely with the interested party on the immediate deposit of significant funds which will allow Sunday's Premiership match against Exeter Chiefs at Sixways and Saturday's Allianz Cup tie between University of Worcester

Bowing out: Jim O'Toole appeared to admit defeat on social media yesterday

REX



by **ALEX BYWATER**

Warriors and Harlequins to go ahead as scheduled.

'We will provide a further update both on the sale of the club and this weekend's matches on Wednesday.'

Worcester face a winding-up court hearing on October 6 over a £6million unpaid tax bill, with HMRC understood to be pushing for the club to be liquidated. The Warriors were unable to pay all their staff in full last month after the players received their wages late.

But the news Goldring and Whittingham appear close to completing a sale does provide a ray of hope for Worcester's embattled players, staff and supporters.

Meanwhile, Saracens are set to recall a number of their England stars for their first Premiership game at London rivals Harlequins on Saturday.

Mark McCall's men sat out the opening weekend of the new season as it was their bye week, but Owen Farrell, Jamie George and Maro Itoje are all in consideration to start at the Stoop.

England players who featured in the summer tour win over Australia are entitled to a 10-week rest period, but clubs can apply to the RFU for them to return sooner.

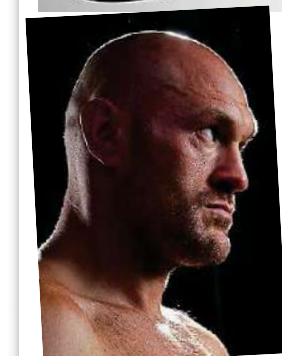
Harlequins and England half-backs Danny Care and Marcus Smith are expected to return to action in the next two to three weeks and are unlikely to face Saracens.

'Hopefully we will see a few (England players) this week,' said Saracens director of rugby McCall. 'Obviously there is a 10-week rule in place but if you think a player should be exempted from that because of any injuries from the previous year, then you can apply to reduce that.'



Battle of Britain: Joshua is already in training to face Fury (below) in Cardiff

KEVIN QUIGLEY/GETTY IMAGES



Mega fight is ON as Joshua agrees to 60-40 split

BOXING

JEFF POWELL Boxing Correspondent in Las Vegas

team for a fight Dec 3rd last Friday,' 258 tweeted yesterday. 'Due to the Queen's passing, it was agreed to halt all communication. We are awaiting a response.'

Nothing unseemly in that. Everything consistent with retrieving this fight from the waste bin of opportunity lost. When Joshua was defeated by Oleksandr Usyk in their rematch last month, the Battle of Britain with Fury receded into doubt. But when Usyk begged for time out with his family and front-line comrades in Ukraine's war with Russia before his inevitable fight with Fury for the undisputed world heavyweight title, the door came ajar. Fury kicked it open as he saw the chance to double his money — think a hundred million spondoolicks or more — by fitting in this fight against Joshua before it became virtually irrelevant. So he threw down the gauntlet which AJ picked up by going straight back into training. The

TALE OF THE TAPE

FURY		JOSHUA
34	Age	32
6ft 9in	Height	6ft 6in
33	Fights	27
32 (23)	Wins (KOs)	24 (22)
0	Losses	3
85in	Reach	82in
265½lb	Weight	244½lb
Orthodox	Stance	Orthodox

winner takes all by proceeding to fight Usyk in the spring. The scene is set with Fury coming out of momentary retirement and Joshua being spared the drudgery of smaller-hall fights in order to rebuild his career. And there is relief all round as the fans get to see Fury v Joshua before that joins the legion of must-fights which never happened. Mark the date which, out of fighter's pride, neither can afford to be seen as ducking. Joshua wanted December 17, while Fury saw late November as a date that would give him time to prepare for Usyk. So December 3 it is.

Murray may be a spare part as Britain begin Davis Cup finals bid

ANDY MURRAY was once a lone hero for Britain's Davis Cup team, but now fears he may not make the final team sheet. The double Wimbledon champion describes this as the strongest GB squad he has ever seen, as they try to qualify for November's finals week in Malaga. Four nations will play off at Glasgow's Emirates Arena for two of the eight quarter-final spots available, with long-serving home captain Leon Smith facing some serious selection dilemmas. Britain has four men in the singles top 50 this week for the first time since the

TENNIS

MIKE DICKSON

Tennis Correspondent in Glasgow

modern rankings system came in 49 years ago, not to mention the world's No 1 and 3 doubles players. 'In terms of the depth we have now it is definitely the best,' said Murray, who was unbeaten in 2015 when GB won the Davis Cup. 'I don't expect to play. If I don't play at all, I trust the players who go out there will do a great job.' The

Scot is ranked 43 but that still leaves him below Cam Norrie and Dan Evans. With USA, Holland and Kazakhstan in the group, Britain have their toughest-looking match today with the opener against America, led by Wimbledon quarter-finalist Taylor Fritz. 'It's a really tricky group. It is going to be close,' said Smith, who can also call upon last weekend's US Open men's doubles champion Joe Salisbury and finalist Neal Skupski in his five-man squad. Yesterday the four teams lined up for a minute's silence and the playing of the

national anthem before the first match between Holland and Kazakhstan. Smith said: 'It's been a difficult week for our nation. It's a very poignant moment. We can put on something special. It will be a positive tribute we can provide.'

WATCHING BRIEF...



GREAT BRITAIN v USA



Start: 4pm, Emirates Arena, Glasgow.
TV: **LIVE** on BBC iPlayer.



England blessed that Key chose McCullum in his sliding doors moment

IT WAS, said Jonathan Agnew on *Test Match Special*, a 'lightbulb moment'. He was talking about the time he first heard Brendon McCullum's name linked with the England Test coaching job and it perfectly described my reaction, too.

Of course it made sense. The New Zealander was clearly the perfect man to come together with Ben Stokes and change the whole mentality of the England team. The only surprise was that none of us other than Rob Key had thought of it.

How different things could have been had Key — who has been a breath of fresh air since swapping commentary for administration — gone with Gary Kirsten, the man considered the hot favourite for the job earlier this year.

So confident was the South African that he had got the gig, he started rearranging his life and interests in Cape Town to make sure he was ready to make the move to England.

Instead he had to make do with remaining coach of Welsh Fire, who he led to precisely no victories in eight games in the Hundred after struggling in Cardiff. Talk about a sliding doors call for England.

It was Trevor Bayliss who said a good coach puts himself out of a job because he allows the players to take responsibility, and McCullum has been the epitome of that approach ever since he strolled into Lord's in his jeans,

white trainers and dark glasses. Everything about McCullum has been about fun, enjoyment and entertainment, banishing pressure and the fear of failure.

Practices have been short and the coach has cut a hugely relaxed figure on the periphery of nets or on the team balcony. 'I don't really do a lot, to be honest,' he insisted in the aftermath of England's sixth win in seven Tests this summer.

'Just let the guys do what they're born to do — play cricket in the style and manner they want and try to bring the group together and make sure they're enjoying themselves.

'My job is to ensure we're always reminding ourselves this job is meant to be the greatest time of our lives, being a cricketer at the highest level and trying to create memories you look back over in time. There's results but it's also the fun and the camaraderie you build up. Hopefully we've been able to achieve that.'

McCullum may play down his role in the transformation of England, but do not listen to a word of it. He is no Chauncey

WORLD OF CRICKET

PAUL NEWMAN'S WEEKLY COLUMN



DARREN STEVENS walks out perhaps for the last time in a high-profile match at Trent Bridge on Saturday when he plays for Kent against Lancashire in the Royal London Cup final. I say perhaps because even though he has announced he will leave Canterbury, aged 46, at the end of the season, this extraordinary cricketer is seeking another contract somewhere else for 2023. Who's to say he shouldn't get one, too? For now, just in case, enjoy him while you can.

Gardiner in *Being There*. He is one of the most important and influential figures cricket has seen in the last 10 years.

And it is to England's huge benefit that Key could see what a man with no red-ball coaching experience could bring, when few others looked beyond the usual suspects.



Blade runner: McCullum has cut a relaxed figure
GETTY IMAGES

'LITTLE CHEF' COOKING UP A STORM

THE County Championship is back and one of its most unsung yet highly effective performers has reached an impressive landmark. When Sam Cook dismissed Yorkshire's Tom Kohler-Cadmore at Headingley, he became the first English bowler to reach 200 first-class wickets at fewer than 20 apiece since Derbyshire's Alan Ward in 1971. It was the latest example of the Essex bowler's growing achievements that also saw him play for the Lions against South Africa earlier this season and, with a white ball,

stand out for champions Trent Rockets in the Hundred. It has long been felt Cook, 25, is not quite quick enough for the highest level, but that has not stopped Matt Potts and Ollie Robinson this season. What he does have is skill and, it should be said, one of the better nicknames on the county circuit.

While Alastair Cook has always been 'Chef' at Chelmsford, so his younger namesake became 'Little Chef'. More pertinently, he may have the ingredients to yet become an England Test bowler.



Root hails Stokes reign

JOE ROOT has compared England's red-ball revolution to their turnaround in white-ball fortunes seven years ago, saying he's never had so much fun during his 10 years in international cricket.

'There was a moment at Trent Bridge when me and Zak Crawley sat down in that last session with a crossword,' Root said, referring to England's victory in the second Test over New Zealand and the merciless hitting of Jonny Bairstow.

'We did one answer and within three overs, we'd put the book down and couldn't take our eyes off it. It was like watching a highlights reel of a Twenty20 game, never mind a Test.

'There is a small feeling of what it was like when we started to make those really big scores in the white-ball team. That's the exciting thing — how far can we go? You look at what that team has achieved. It is early days, but it is very exciting that there is the same sort of vibe around.'

Meanwhile, Brendon McCullum has given the clearest indication

By LAWRENCE BOOTH

yet that England will take Crawley and Alex Lees to Pakistan this winter.

The pair gave their prospects a boost with England's quickest-ever century opening stand, from just 17.2 overs, as South Africa were brushed aside at the Oval.

Despite those late-summer runs, however, Crawley averaged just 23 in the seven home Tests and Lees 25 — a familiar story for England openers since the retirements of Andrew Strauss in 2012 and Alastair Cook in 2018.

But coach McCullum said: 'We're very quick to judge some of the things that aren't working as well. These are tough cricket wickets. The last two guys who nailed it at the top of the order in this country are both called "Sir", so it's not an easy thing to do.

'We've got to allow these guys the time and opportunity to develop. You've got to allow that talent to come out.'

CRICKET SCOREBOARDS

LV COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

(Day 2 of 4)

Division I

Northamptonshire v Surrey

NORTHAMPTON: Surrey (4pts), with five 1st-innings wickets in hand, are trailing Northamptonshire (4) by 115 runs.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE — First Innings (Overnight: 249-4)

R Keogh c Steel b Roach	123
†R Vasconcelos c Patel b Atkinson	18
Saif Zaib lbw b Steel	4
J Sales c Geddes b Roach	7
L Williams lbw b Roach	0
B Sanderson c Steel b Worrall	11
C White not out	0
Extras (lb4, nb4)	8

Total (89.1 overs) 339
Fall: 77, 91, 94, 249, 283, 293, 310, 312, 339.

Bowling: Roach 20-1-95-5, Worrall 20-1-4-64-2, Clark 18-2-62-0, Curran 11-2-39-0, Atkinson 12-0-39-2, Steel 6-1-27-1, Patel 2-0-9-0.

SURREY — First Innings

*R Burns lbw b Sanderson	10
R Patel c Williams b White	10
H Amla not out	97
B Geddes c Vasconcelos b White	6
†J Smith b Procter	17
C Steel b Keogh	48
J Clark not out	14
Extras (b5, lb5, nb12)	22

Total (5 wickets 68 overs) 224
Fall: 20, 30, 46, 80, 195.

Bowling: Sanderson 15-1-40-1, White 16-3-34-2, Williams 13-1-47-0, Procter 10-3-33-1, Sales 4-0-28-0, Keogh 7-0-23-1, Saif Zaib 3-0-9-0.

Warwickshire v Somerset

EDGBASTON: Somerset (4pts), with eight 2nd-innings wickets in hand, are leading Warwickshire (3) by 36 runs.

SOMERSET — First Innings

(Overnight: 182-8)	
L Gregory c Burgess b Siraj	60
Sajid Khan not out	53
J Brooks c Davies b Brookes	15
Extras (b8, w1, nb4)	13

Total (65.4 overs) 219
Fall: 12, 17, 46, 46, 66, 82, 140, 182.

Bowling: Hannan-Dalby 14-5-43-1, Mohammed Siraj 24-6-82-5, Yadav 14-2-42-1, Brookes 12-4-0-26-3, Briggs 1-0-18-0.

Second Innings

T Lammonby not out	11
Imam ul Haq c Hain b Siraj	0
K Aldridge b Yadav	0
*T Abell not out	2
Extras	0

Total (2 wickets 8 overs) 13
Fall: 0, 7.

Bowling: Hannan-Dalby 2-1-5-0, Mohammed Siraj 2-1-1-1, Yadav 2-0-3-1, Briggs 2-1-4-0.

WARWICKSHIRE — First Innings

R Yates c Rew b Davey	0
D Sibley c Rew b Gregory	5
A Davies c Rew b Gregory	9
S Hain lbw b Brooks	67
*W Rhodes c Rew b Aldridge	38
J Yadav b Brooks	29
†M Burgess b Brooks	0
D Briggs b Aldridge	15
H Brookes c Gregory b Brooks	9
Mohammed Siraj not out	21
O Hannan-Dalby b Davey	2
Extras (b1)	1

Total (81.2 overs) 196
Fall: 0, 13, 22, 95, 141, 141, 156, 166, 180.

Bowling: Davey 12-2-4-20-2, Gregory 16-4-2-48-2, Brooks 18-3-40-4, Sajid Khan 18-3-46-0, Aldridge 14-4-30-2, Lammonby 2-2-0-11-0.

Yorkshire v Essex

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire (3pts), with eight 2nd-innings wickets in hand, are trailing Essex (4) by 4 runs.

YORKSHIRE — First Innings 134

Second Innings

A Lyth c Rossington b S Cook	4
F Bean not out	41
G Hill c A Cook b Porter	33
Extras (b1, lb4, nb4)	9

Total (2 wickets 27.4 overs) 87
Fall: 25, 87.

Bowling: Porter 6-4-10-1, S Cook 7-3-12-1, Snater 5-1-21-0, Allison 5-2-8-0, Critchley 3-0-10-0, Lawrence 1-0-1-0.

ESSEX — First Innings

N Browne b Thompson	1
A Cook lbw b Patterson	23
*T Westley lbw b Thompson	20
D Lawrence c Tattersall b Hill	61
M Critchley lbw b Thompson	15
F Khushi lbw b Coad	1
†A Rossington lbw b Coad	8
S Snater c Sub b Hill	46
B Allison lbw b Thompson	23
S Cook c Tattersall b Hill	6
J Porter not out	0
Extras (b4, lb11, nb6)	21

Total (73.2 overs) 225
Fall: 1, 44, 50, 80, 85, 105, 180, 209, 225.

Bowling: Coad 15-7-34-2, Thompson 14-1-60-3, Patterson 18-6-33-1, Revis 7-1-40-0, Hill 13-2-5-22-3, Shutt 6-1-21-0.

Division II

GRACE ROAD: Leicestershire 202 (56.0 overs, Budinger 64, Potts 6-52), Durham 239-5 (70.0 overs, Jones 97).

LORD'S: Glamorgan 214 (54.1 overs, Cooke 52, Higgins 4-59), Middlesex 286-5 (81.3 overs, Stoneman 128, Simpson 72no).

HOVE: Sussex 220 (59.2 overs, Carson 58, Coles 54, Hudson-Prentice 51, Leach 4-37), Worcestershire 289-2 (80.0 overs, Libby 142no, Pollock 98).

FIFA demand answers from Ecuador star with 'false ID'

Chile eye World Cup spot after our bombshell revelations

MATT HUGHES

Chief Sports Reporter

FIFA have summoned Byron Castillo to attend tomorrow's appeals commission hearing following *Sportsmail's* revelation that the Ecuador star confessed to being born in Colombia.

The president of the Chilean FA, Pablo Milad, yesterday welcomed *Sportsmail's* publication of Castillo's interview with investigators four years ago, in which he admitted using a false birth certificate.

But the player's lawyer claims the new evidence is not

Ecuador could face World Cup boot as star 'admits false ID'

Exclusive: *Sportsmail* yesterday

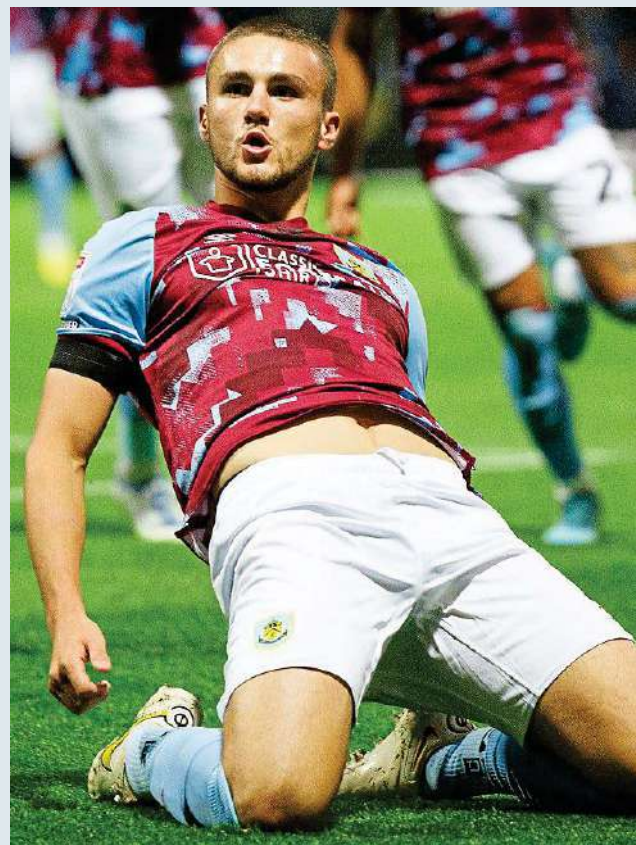
admissible as the row between the countries escalates.

Chile would replace Ecuador if FIFA follow precedent by awarding them two 3-0 victories for the matches in which Castillo played against them in South American qualifying.

In other scenarios, Peru or Italy could be handed a back-door entry to the World Cup.

FIFA also responded to our story by sending an updated request to the Ecuador FA yesterday for Castillo to attend the hearing in Zurich, writing that 'the Ecuadorian FA is requested to ensure that the player is made available and attends'.

Their previous communication with the Ecuador FA only 'requested to ensure, in the best extent possible' that Castillo attend, which FIFA sources confirmed represented a significant escalation of



Slide rule: Burnley's Harwood-Bellis celebrates his goal REX

PRESTON 1
BURNLEY 1

RICHARD TANNER
at Deepdale

PRESTON fans had seen only one goal in four previous matches at Deepdale this season – and that was scored by Birmingham. But they were treated to two inside the first 15 minutes, including a long-awaited first at home for their team, in a fiercely-competitive Lancashire derby last night. Taylor Harwood-Bellis headed Burnley in front from Josh Brownhill's corner, the first league goal of the Manchester City loanee's career. But Preston's long-awaited first home strike of the campaign came 10 minutes later when Jordan Storey nudged the ball over the line in a goal-mouth scramble after Burnley goalkeeper Arijanet Muric had

Storey strikes as Preston find the net at last

flapped at Robbie Brady's corner. As usual, Vincent Kompany's team dominated with their slick possession-based football but found it hard to penetrate a defence that had kept seven clean sheets in the previous eight games.

Jack Cork and Vitinho had shots saved by Freddie Woodman, and Connor Roberts and Manuel Benson were just off target with a header and shot respectively. Preston spent most of the game on the back foot.

Before kick-off there was a perfectly observed minute's silence followed by a rendition of *God Save the King* by opera singer Russell Watson, and the players wore black armbands.

SCAN THIS CODE FOR ALL LAST NIGHT'S ACTION FROM THE CHAMPIONSHIP



emphasis. Castillo has never publicly discussed his background, although the evidence he gave to an investigative commission set up by the Ecuador FA appears clear-cut. In an audio recording published by *Sportsmail* yesterday, he gives a name and birth date matching his Colombian certificate and details moving from Tumaco in Colombia to San Lorenzo in

Ecuador to pursue a professional career, as well as naming a businessman he claimed provided him with a new birth certificate. Castillo's apparent confession could result in Ecuador being kicked out of the World Cup just two months before they are due to face Qatar in the tournament's opening game. A lawyer for the Chilean FA, Eduardo Carlezso, confirmed the

interview with Castillo was not part of the evidence presented to FIFA when their case was dismissed at an initial hearing in June. 'We knew this audio existed, because it was clearly mentioned in official papers, but we were unaware of its content,' Carlezso said. 'The recording validates everything we have said since the beginning of this case. 'Clearly this now needs to be submitted as evidence to FIFA's appeals committee before Thursday's hearing.' Chilean FA president Milad welcomed the new evidence and claimed it proved Castillo had deceived the world. 'This recording substantiates that our claim and complaint is correct,' he said. 'From the player's mouth, he recognises his

nationality and everything he did. This strengthens our position. 'It is external proof that we did not have within the evidence that we presented, but it consolidates the case and shows truth in our complaint. 'We did not have the direct background of this audio. We are surprised and happy that this recording has come out. We did have a history that this player was Colombian and that he deceived the whole world.' Castillo's lawyer Andres Holguin claimed the evidence was irrelevant because it had not been submitted to the original hearing. 'The audio circulating is nothing new,' he said. 'In addition, a constitutional judge did not consider it as evidence since it could not be certified it was from Castillo.'

'We are surprised and happy this recording has come out. This player was Colombian and deceived the whole world'

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS AND SPORT IN BRIEF

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Group A

LIVERPOOL..... (1) 2

AJAX..... (1) 1

Salah 17, Matip 89

Kudus 27

Group B

BAYER LEVERKUSEN..... (0) 2

ATLETICO MADRID..... (0) 0

Andrich 84, Diaby 87

FC PORTO..... (0) 0

CLUB BRUGES..... (1) 4

Jutgla 15 (pen), Sowah 47

Skov Olsen 52, Nusa 89

Group C

BAYERN MUNICH..... (0) 2

BARCELONA..... (0) 0

Hernandez 50, Sane 54

PLZEN..... (0) 0

INTER MILAN..... (1) 2

Dzeko 20, Dumfries 70

Group D

MARSEILLE..... (0) 0

E FRANKFURT..... (1) 1

Lindstrom 43

SPORTING..... (0) 0

TOTTENHAM..... (0) 0

Paulinho 90, Arthur Gomes 90

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP

P W D L F A GD Pts

Sheff Utd..... 9 6 2 1 17 5 12 20

Norwich..... 8 5 1 2 12 6 6 16

Blackburn..... 9 5 0 4 11 11 0 15

Reading..... 8 5 0 3 9 11 -2 15

Burnley..... 9 3 5 1 15 9 6 14

Bristol City..... 8 4 2 2 16 11 5 14

Watford..... 9 3 4 2 9 9 0 13

Wigan..... 8 3 4 1 9 10 -1 13

Preston..... 9 2 6 1 3 2 1 12

Sunderland..... 8 3 2 3 11 9 2 11

QPR..... 8 3 2 3 12 11 1 11

Stoke..... 9 3 2 4 11 11 0 11

Blackpool..... 8 3 2 3 9 10 -1 11

Cardiff..... 9 3 2 4 7 10 -3 11

Hull..... 9 3 2 4 11 18 -7 11

Rotherham..... 7 2 4 1 9 6 3 10

Millwall..... 8 3 1 4 9 11 -2 10

West Brom..... 8 1 6 1 12 10 2 9

Luton..... 8 2 3 3 7 8 -1 9

Middlesbro..... 9 2 3 4 13 15 -2 9

Swansea..... 9 2 3 4 7 12 -5 9

Birmingham..... 8 2 2 4 5 8 -3 8

Huddersfield..... 8 1 1 6 8 13 -5 4

Coventry..... 5 0 1 4 5 11 -6 1

BLACKBURN..... (1) 2

WATFORD..... (1) 0 3

Hedges 38, Hyam 82

HUDDERSFLD..... (0) 1

WIGAN..... (1) 2

Lees 76

Keane 25 (pen)

Lano 82

17,941

HULL..... (0) 0

STOKE..... (2) 3

MK DONS..... (0) 0

BOLTON..... (1) 2

L Baker 25, 64

Wilmoat 45

15,627

MIDDLESBROUGH..... (0) 2

CARDIFF..... (3) 3

MORECAMBE..... (0) 0

SHEFF WED..... (0) 3

O'Dowda 4, Harris 20

Ng 45

22,124

PRESTON NORTH END (1) 1

BURNLEY..... (1) 1

PETERBOROUGH..... (0) 0

FLEETWOOD..... (1) 1

Harwood-Bellis 10

20,212

SWANSEA..... (0) 0

SHEFF UTD..... (1) 1

Khadra 90

15,458

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE

BARNLEY..... (1) 1

PORT VALE..... (0) 1

Harrison 83

9,552

Kitching 43

BURTON ALB..... (0) 0

PORTSMOUTH..... (0) 2

Hughes 59 (og)

Bishop 86

2,945

CHARLTON..... (1) 1

FOREST GREEN..... (1) 1

Blackett-Taylor 9

Wickham 45

CHELTENHAM..... (0) 2

CAMBRIDGE U..... (1) 1

N'Lundulu 59, May 83

3,004

IPSWICH..... (1) 2

BRISTOL RVS..... (0) 0

Chaplin 24, Evans 55

22,209

LINCOLN CITY..... (1) 2

DERBY..... (0) 0

Diamond 12 (pen), House 68

9,622

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO

AFC WIMBLEDON... (0) 0

NORTHAMPTON.... (1) 2

Guthrie 27

Towler 69 (og)

6,618

BARROW..... (1) 2

DONCASTER..... (0) 0

Whitfield 37, Warren 78

3,295

CRAWLEY TN..... (2) 3

STOCKPORT..... (1) 2

Tilley 5, Telford 36

Crankshaw 17

Hussey 52

2,187

GRIMSBY..... (1) 1

GILLINGHAM..... (1) 1

Taylor 7

Mandron 14

5,960

HARROGATE TOWN.. (0) 0

SALFORD CITY..... (0) 1

Lund 90

1,350

HARTLEPOOL..... (1) 1

CREWE..... (0) 1

Umerah 33 (pen)

4,002

MANSFIELD..... (0) 0

CARLISLE..... (0) 0

3,704

ROCHDALE..... (0) 0

LEYTON ORIENT..... (0) 0

Mconur 35

2,173

STEVENAGE..... (0) 1

NEWPORT..... (0) 0

Gilbey 48

2,109

SWINDON..... (2) 3

SUTTON UTD..... (2) 2

Shade 35, Williams 38

7,589

Woking 90

TRANMERE..... (0) 1

BRADFORD..... (1) 2

Hemmings 49

Cook 3.75

WALSALL..... (0) 1

COLCHESTER..... (1) 1

Knowles 61

Nouble 2

4,321

Leyton Orient..... 8 7 1 0 15 4 11 22

Stevenage..... 8 6 1 1 11 6 5 19

Barrow..... 8 6 0 2 13 9 4 18

Salford City..... 8 5 2 1 13 6 7 17

Northampton..... 8 5 2 1 16 10 6 17

Bradford..... 8 4 2 2 11 7 4 14

Doncaster..... 8 4 2 2 10 10 0 14

Mansfield..... 8 4 1 3 12 9 3 13

Grimsb'y..... 7 3 3 1 7 5 2 12

Crewe..... 8 3 3 2 10 9 1 12

Swindon..... 8 2 5 1 9 8 1 11

Sutton Utd..... 8 3 2 3 9 9 0 11

TODAY'S ACTION

(7.45 unless stated)

CHAMPIONS LGE – Group A: Rangers v Napoli (8.0). Group E: AC Milan v Dinamo Zagreb (5.45). Chelsea v Red Bull Salzburg (8.0). Group F: Real Madrid v RB Leipzig (8.0). Shakhtar Donetsk v Celtic (5.45). Group G: FC Copenhagen v Sevilla (8.0). Man City v Borussia Dortmund (8.0). Group H: Juventus v Benfica (8.0). Maccabi Haifa v PSG (8.0).

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP: Luton v Coventry Millwall v QPR, Norwich v Bristol City, Reading v Sunderland (8.0), Rotherham v Blackpool West Brom v Birmingham (8.0).

RUGBY UNION – Women's International (7.30): England v Wales.

Can Chelsea tame

Salzburg giant Benjamin Sesko is earning rave reviews and drawing comparisons with City's star man

PERHAPS it was not as far-fetched as it seemed when Benjamin Sesko claimed his Red Bull Salzburg team-mates told him he was even better than Erling Haaland.

'Benjamin is maybe the better football player, better to play with the team, technically maybe better at the same age,' Rene Aufhauser tells *Sportsmail*.

Having coached both players at Salzburg (Haaland moved from there to Borussia Dortmund to Manchester City) former Austria international Aufhauser is well-placed to make the sort of comparisons between Sesko and Haaland that the Slovenian striker says 'motivate me and give me energy'.

And 19-year-old Sesko — who faces Chelsea, one of his many summer suitors, in the Champions League tonight — already appears to have few weaknesses.

'His natural movements are so good, he's 6ft 4in tall, fast and has very, very good physical ability,' Aufhauser says, explaining that Sesko's all-round sporting prowess — he played volleyball, tennis and basketball to a good standard when younger — are factors in why he is such a natural athlete.

'He's so smooth with the ball, very good technique, good finishing and he jumps so high. Very, very, good with the head. It's unbelievable.'

No wonder some within Salzburg think he might be the best striker the club has ever had.

The last bit that Sesko needs to add to his make-up, Aufhauser feels, is where Haaland now excels.

'Erling was mentally a monster and better at the same age,' Aufhauser says. 'This is the last five, 10 per cent that Benji has to get.'

Aufhauser fondly recalls how relentless and focused Haaland was in finishing sessions and the sheer number of chances he would convert even if his touch wasn't perfect.

He remembers how, despite his height and



by **ADRIAN KAJUMBA**

power, Haaland used to 'head the ball like a turtle, his one weakness at the beginning' but worked like crazy to improve.

Disappointment did not derail Haaland, either. 'If he missed a chance everyone had this feeling he didn't care,' Aufhauser explains.

'He was still in the game, focused and had so much self-confidence that he knew if he got another two chances, he would score once for sure, sometimes twice.'

Amid talk that all the noise around him may be distracting the youngster, Sesko has recently had a short spell out of Salzburg's starting XI, the sort of period that may help him develop Haaland-esque resolve.

'He needs experience at this level and also maybe to learn to deal with disappointment,' Aufhauser says. 'Sometimes he wants to be perfect. He has to stay cool, stay calm and wait for his next chance. This is maybe the biggest thing he has to learn in this year.'

While that is for Sesko's future, his first sessions with Aufhauser are an indication of what Chelsea will have to be wary of, whether he starts or comes off the bench.

'I was Salzburg assistant coach,'

Aufhauser says, 'and we did some training sessions together with our second team, Liefering, and Benjamin Sesko was playing there. He was 16 when he came into the first sessions. All the players from the (Salzburg) first team said, "Wow, what a physical player, what good movement he has".'

'He competed with our centre backs like Maximilian Wober and Andre Ramalho, who is now playing at PSV. Both guys were very, very strong centre backs and had a lot of experience but they were really impressed by him, his physicality, desire to win and desire to win duels.'

Liverpool's defenders will know that feeling after Sesko tormented them in a pre-season friendly, capping his performance with the game's only goal.

Speculation around the Slovenian intensified after that with Real Madrid, Manchester United and Chelsea among those keen to snap him up. Sesko instead opted to remain with the Red Bull group and will join Leipzig next year.

Aufhauser believes that is a logical next step, but also that a chance to see how Sesko stacks up against Haaland in England may come sooner rather than later.

'He will develop in the next one or two years into one of the absolute top strikers in Europe,' Aufhauser insists. 'He has the potential to be the next very, very good powerful striker in the Premier League.'

Big threat: Sesko has shone for Salzburg, just as Haaland (right) did
REX/GETTY IMAGES



WATCHING BRIEF...

CHelsea v SALZBURG

Kick-off: 8pm, Stamford Bridge.
TV: **LIVE** on BT Sport 3 from 7.15pm.
Referee: Ivan Kruzliak (Slovakia).

GROUP E

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Dinamo Zagreb...	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
AC Milan.....	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Salzburg.....	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1
Chelsea.....	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0

BIG BEN'S A SUPERSTAR

Age:	19
Born:	Radece, Slovenia
Nationality:	Slovenia
Height:	6ft 4in
Foot:	Right
Previous clubs:	FC Liefering (loan)
Now on loan at Salzburg from Leipzig	
Club appearances:	93
Club goals:	37
International appearances:	13
International goals:	2

3 SESKO already has three pieces of silverware to his name — the Austrian Bundesliga (2021 & 2022) and the Austrian Cup (2022).

He also holds two records for his national team:

- Youngest player to play for Slovenia (aged 18 years and 1 day).
- Slovenia's youngest goalscorer.

£55m RB LEIPZIG paid £55m for Sesko this summer then loaned him back to Salzburg.

Risk-taker Potter excited for latest

IN ONE way at least, and just like Chelsea, Graham Potter is heading into the unknown.

'Off the top of my head, I don't think I have (been to a Champions League game),' he admitted, ahead of his Blues bow tonight against Red Bull Salzburg after succeeding Thomas Tuchel. 'So this is a good time to go into the dugout. Why not? Wherever we start, it is a heck of an introduction.' But when it comes to stepping out of his comfort zone, Potter (left) has been there and done that. It is one of the many reasons he

By **ADRIAN KAJUMBA**

appealed to Chelsea's new Todd Boehly-led ownership and why they were willing to hand a manager who had never coached an elite club a well-earned chance. Leaving the safety of Brighton, who he helped transform, for Chelsea, with their history of ruthless sackings, may seem risky. But Potter said: 'Well, if we walk out the road over there, there is a risk. That's what life is. No one knows what's going to happen.' 'I left England when I was 30 and went to a club (Ostersunds) who had sacked their manager every year for the last five years. Fourth tier in Swedish football. Left a secure job.

'But I think that's what life is about — going outside your comfort zone, taking responsibility, believing that there's more to us than what sits here now. 'I don't see it as a risk in a negative way. Everything is a bit unknown and that's the beauty of life, the beauty of football. You never know what is round the corner.' Potter accepted the job following some 'intense conversations' with Chelsea's owners which left him impressed by them and their plans for the club. They intend to do things differently at Chelsea now and have handed the 47-year-old a five-year deal, underlining their long-term thinking. The club has also held

talks with Christoph Freund, of tonight's opponents Salzburg, in their search for a new sporting director. The Queen's death, just a few hours after Potter's appointment was confirmed last week, has dictated events since. His unveiling was an understated occasion, combined with a regulation pre-match press conference, while Salzburg's visit will be Potter's only game until next month. 'It was one of those days where in 40 years' time we'll go, "Where were you when that happened?" It'll be easy for me to answer, that's for sure,' he said of last Thursday. 'It was a seismic day on loads of



the new Haaland?



by JACK GAUGHAN

IF THINGS had gone differently last year it would be Harry Kane lining up for Manchester City against Erling Haaland and Borussia Dortmund tonight.

Kane, viewed by City as the best striker in the Premier League before Haaland's arrival from Dortmund, would have been a perfect fit for manager Pep Guardiola.

It is why, in the weeks after Sergio Aguero's departure last summer, they turned to the England captain. City had wanted Haaland first — a dossier on the Norwegian sat in the club's database from his time as a prodigious teenager at Bryne — but were told by tonight's Champions League opponents to forget it.

So Project Kane was under way. A short venture, coming to an abrupt end after two conversations with Spurs chairman Daniel Levy, who insisted they were not selling. Kane's representatives offered City encouragement that Levy would change his mind yet the price tag, £150million and beyond, persuaded Guardiola to look elsewhere.

And by the time Kane was producing the best individual performance of last season, scoring twice in Tottenham's 3-2 victory at the Etihad in February, City were well on their way to securing Haaland. They started the charm offensive to convince the striker in October, had terms in place by March and were given a definitive yes in mid-April.

Guardiola said yesterday that he was informed by sporting director Txiki Begiristain during a 'two-second' conversation and his cool response to the news was: 'OK, fine.' He may have been slightly economical with that particular truth.

In the end, the 22-year-old's decision came down to City and Real Madrid. The key

Why Guardiola pulled the plug on Kane chase and turned instead to Norwegian hitman...

WATCHING BRIEF...

MAN CITY v BORUSSIA DORTMUND

Kick-off: 8pm, Etihad Stadium.
TV: **LIVE** BT Sport 2 from 7pm.
Referee: Daniele Orsato (Ita).

GROUP G

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Man City	1	1	0	0	4	0	4	3
Dortmund	1	1	0	0	3	0	3	3
Copenhagen	1	0	0	1	0	3	-3	0
Sevilla	1	0	0	1	0	4	-4	0

aspect during talks was persuading him that he was ready for the rigours of English football now rather than waiting. City told him their possession-based system would lighten his physical load.

Haaland has since proven why he was first choice, making an electrifying start to his City career with 12 goals in seven games. Guardiola said: 'I've said many times that we are over-rated as managers. The game belongs to the players. He can improve and be better with the connection with his team-mates. Over time he will be a better player.'

Tonight presents a reunion with the club who moulded Haaland into a global phenomenon but for whom the intensity of swirling speculation earlier in the year became, as Dortmund sporting director Sebastian Kehl said this week, a 'burden'.

At City, there is satisfaction at the way this has fallen into place — a vindication in not pushing the envelope for Kane and landing one of the best young strikers in the world.

City believe this deal represents proof that their recruitment model is working at a level few others can match. Following a huge outlay in 2017 — with three full backs, Ederson and Bernardo Silva joining for more than £200m — there is a closer eye on the value of outgoings.

The summer regeneration of

Guardiola's squad, five new faces offset by the sales of three big names and a cluster of youngsters, ended in a £55m profit. Only Brighton have posted more profitable figures over the past two seasons.

City's record compared to their main European rivals is much the same. More broadly, 11 Premier League clubs have a larger net spend in the five years since 2017 — including Fulham, Aston Villa and West Ham — and there are 10 in the Champions League. City are £153m in the black over that time.

The figures, in and out, are massive. Only Manchester United and Chelsea have outspent City's £650m in the last five years but neither go close to the £497m received.

It allows them to sign Jack Grealish for £100m and, this summer, Haaland for an overall package — with agent fees and signing-on bonuses — that is not too far from that number. The wage bill has gone up as a result, with City sources not ruling out significant investment in the next priority area, which is expected to be in central midfield. It is not a leap to suggest they may pay attention to Jude Bellingham's performance for Dortmund tonight.

For now though Guardiola got what he wanted: a frontline striker to help push them over the line in Europe. Captain Ilkay Gundogan said: 'The numbers speak for themselves. His character and attitude off the pitch is incredible. For such a young boy he is very mature.'

'Having a proper striker now, physically strong and determined, is going to help us a lot.'

When asked how Dortmund go about stopping Haaland tonight, Bellingham laughed and said: 'I'm not really sure to be honest. It's not an individual task, the team has to deal with it collectively.'

MAN CITY (4-1-4-1): Ederson; Cancelo, Dias, Ake, Gomez; Rodri; Mahrez, De Bruyne, Gundogan, Grealish; Haaland.

BORUSSIA DORTMUND (4-2-3-1): Meyer; Meunier, Sule, Schlotterbeck, Guerreiro; Bellingham, Ozcinar; Reyna, Reus, Brandt; Modeste.

COULD HE GO ON TO MATCH HAALAND?

Age	22
Born	Leeds
Nationality	Norway
Height	6ft 4in
Foot	Left
Previous clubs	Bryne, Molde, Salzburg, Borussia Dortmund.
Club apps	174
Club goals	147
International appearances	21
International goals	20

25 ERLING HAALAND is the first player to score 25 goals in their first 20 Champions League games. He already has two in this season's competition for City.

43

SESKO isn't far behind Haaland in terms of goals. At the same age as Sesko, Haaland had 43 career goals — compared to the Slovenian's 39.

leap into the unknown

levels. Without sounding silly, I was the main news, I guess. Then sadly I didn't become the news at all. Pretty quickly your thoughts are with the family.' The day that will never be forgotten marked the start of the next chapter in Potter's remarkable rise from non-League to one of the biggest jobs in the game. He said: 'It was too big to turn down and it felt right for me. I've grown up with the success (of Chelsea). It's been amazing and our job is to create our own history.' Meanwhile, Blues co-owner Boehly has suggested the Premier League introduce an all-star North v South game to raise money for the English football pyramid.

Speaking at the SALT conference, the 48-year-old — who admitted he does not say 'hard nos' when asked about the European Super League — said: 'I hope the Premier League takes a little bit of a lesson from American sports and really starts to figure out, "Why wouldn't we do a tournament with the bottom four teams? Why isn't there an all-star game?"' 'You could do a North v South all-star game in the Premier League and fund whatever the pyramid needed very easily. Everyone likes the idea of more revenue for the League.' Boehly also revealed that Tuchel was sacked because he did not

share the new ownership's vision for the club. He added: 'Tuchel is obviously extremely talented and someone who had great success with Chelsea. 'Our vision for the club was to find a manager who really wanted to collaborate with us. The reality was that we weren't sure that Thomas saw it the same way we saw it. 'We just didn't have a shared vision for the future. It wasn't a decision that was made because of a single win or loss.' **CHELSEA** (3-5-3): Arrizabalaga; Fofana, Silva, Koulibaly; James, Mount, Jorginho, Kovacic, Cucurella; Sterling, Aubameyang. **SALZBURG** (4-4-2): Kohn; Dedic, Pavlovic, Bernardo, Ulmer; Capaldo, Seiwald, Susic, Kjaergaard; Fernando, Okafor.

Mendy cleared of one rape

By JACK GAUGHAN

MANCHESTER CITY'S Benjamin Mendy was yesterday found not guilty of the rape of a 19-year-old woman on the direction of a judge at Chester Crown Court.

Mendy is on trial after being charged with eight counts of rape, one sexual assault and one attempted rape.

His co-accused, Louis Saha Maturie, 41, was cleared of two counts of rape and one of sexual assault against the same woman after the prosecution offered no further evidence against the defendants on the four counts.

Earlier, jurors were told of a private video of the woman having 'enthusiastic sex' with Maturie, when she claimed she had been raped. The charge dropped against Mendy related

to an incident a week earlier when the woman alleged that she had woken at Mendy's house to find the 28-year-old raping her.

The same night, July 24 last year, Maturie was also alleged to have raped the woman, but she has 'no memory' of that, the court heard. That count was also dropped.

Mendy still faces trial on seven counts of rape, one of attempted rape and one of sexual assault against six young women.

Maturie, of Salford, denies six counts of rape and three counts of sexual assault. Both men say if any sex did take place, it was consensual. The trial was adjourned until this morning.

Late, late horror show

Former academy kid Edwards stars as Spurs collapse

ANTONIO CONTE would have glanced at his watch in the final minute and thought, 'I'll take that'. At the time, it was goalless and Tottenham were leaving Lisbon with a valuable point.

Three minutes later, referee Srdjan Jovanovic blew for full time with Tottenham on their knees after a 2-0 loss. How did that happen?

Even by Tottenham's standards, this was an implosion of epic proportions as Sporting, courtesy of two substitutes, scored twice in the dying moments to snatch victory.

First, in the 90th minute, Paulinho glanced home a brilliant header from Pedro Goncalves's corner. Then, in the third minute of added time, Arthur Gomes scored a wondrous solo effort seconds after coming on.

Conte swigged from a bottle of water, utterly shell-shocked. Who could blame him? Barring the late capitulation, this had been a textbook Champions League away performance.

Tottenham navigated their way through the clash relatively comfortably. Yes, there were a few bumps and scrapes along the way but, for the most part, they were in control.

Indeed, when Spurs boss Conte reflects on this brutal night, he will conclude that it should never have ended like this.

Tottenham had plenty of opportunities to have the match sewn up way before Sporting's late, late show. But — as Conte put it — they were made to pay for their profligacy.

That is not to discredit Sporting's contribution. They were organised and well-drilled, more than holding their own against Premier League opponents.

Indeed, in Marcus Edwards, the Tottenham academy product now thriving in Portugal, Sporting had the stand-out attacking player on the pitch.

Beautiful control, super balance and a big threat. One run at the



SAMI MOKBEL
Chief Football Reporter in Lisbon

SPORTING

Paulinho 90
Gomes 90+3

TOTTENHAM



2

0

end of the first half that saw him bamboozle Eric Dier twice and Ben Davies was poetry in motion. No wonder Mauricio Pochettino likened him to Lionel Messi.

Equally, you can see why his current manager Ruben Amorim believes he can break into the senior England set-up. At 23, the forward has his peak years ahead of him. On this showing, you would imagine he will not be in the Portuguese league for long.

Surely it will not be long before Gareth Southgate makes a trip to Lisbon to watch him.

Edwards' attacking instincts are being harnessed by Amorim, who himself is attracting admiring glances from elsewhere.

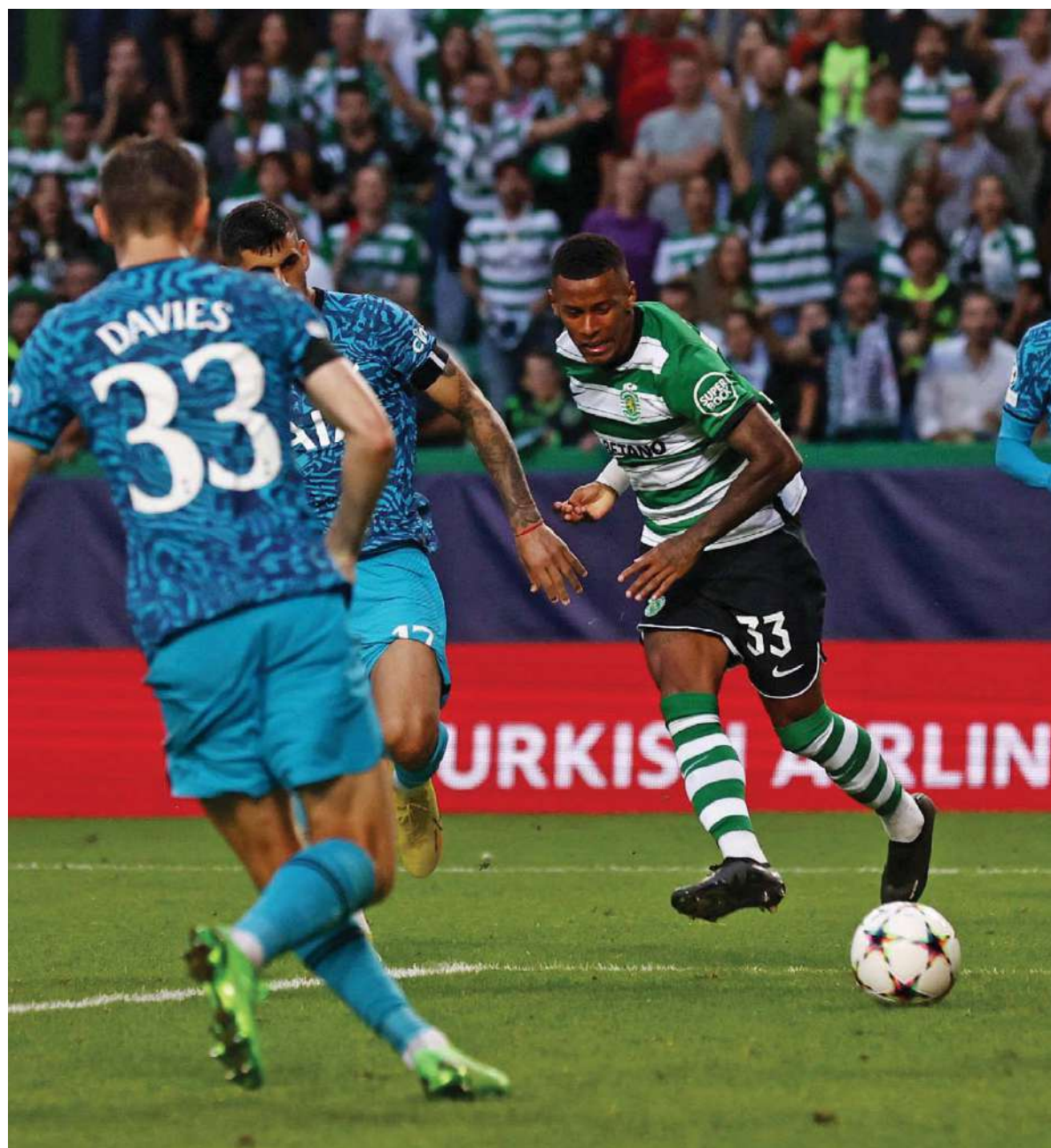
It came as a surprise to many that the 37-year-old coach was linked as a potential successor to Thomas Tuchel at Chelsea last week — but not after his side's performance last night.

It was Edwards who caught the eye on the pitch. Sporting's first opportunity was a product of Edwards' weighted pass into Francisco Trincao's path, resulting in the latter seeing his low shot saved by Hugo Lloris.

But from that moment on, Edwards' magical spell aside, Spurs were cool and collected.

Richarlison squandered a decent headed opportunity, before Emerson Royal found himself deep inside Sporting's box only to fluff his lines at the vital moment.

Tottenham had the ball in the net in the 42nd minute but Richarlison was well offside. Royal



Double trouble: Arthur Gomes scores the second of two late Sporting goals and Conte (right) fumes

GROUP D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Sporting Lisbon..	2	2	0	0	5	0	5	6
Tottenham	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
E Frankfurt.....	2	1	0	1	1	3	-2	3
Marseille.....	2	0	0	2	0	3	-3	0

and Harry Kane were both denied by Antonio Adan at the start of the second half as Spurs searched for the goal their play probably deserved.

At this point, every Sporting

tackle or interception was cheered vociferously by the home support as if their team had scored.

Conte replaced Son Heung-min with Dejan Kulusevski in the 72nd minute in search of the winning goal.

The Tottenham manager warned Son on Monday night that his place in the team is no longer guaranteed. After this — his eighth game without a goal — he will be feeling the heat.

Kulusevski almost made an immediate impact, his cross

headed narrowly wide by Richarlison in the 75th minute.

It looked for all the world that Tottenham would leave Portugal with a point, though Lloris did produce an excellent save to deny Pedro Porro in the closing stages.

But then it all turned a bit, well, 'Spursy' — as substitutes Paulinho and Arthur sent the home fans into dreamland.

SPORTING LISBON (3-4-3): Adan 7.5; Ignacio 7, Coates 7, Reis 7; Porro 7.5, Morita 7 (Alexandropoulos 71min, 6), Ugarte 7, Santos 7 (Esgaio 90); Trincao 6.5 (Paulinho 76),

FA Cup replays face the axe to ease congestion

FA CUP third and fourth-round replays could be scrapped for the third year running to fit in the matches postponed following the Queen's death last Thursday. Football at all levels was shut down last week and three Premier League games will not be played this weekend, Chelsea v Liverpool and Manchester United v Leeds United due to concerns over police resources, and Brighton v Crystal Palace because of a planned train strike which will not now take place.

Tomorrow's Europa League game

By **MIKE KEEGAN**
and **JACK GAUGHAN**

between Arsenal and PSV Eindhoven has also been called off. The situation, coupled with the winter World Cup in Qatar, leaves clubs facing a fixture pile-up later in the season. Officials have been examining the calendar for potential dates and some believe ditching FA Cup replays should be considered. No talks have taken place and the dates remain in the diary. That could change, although

there is a reluctance to deny cash-strapped smaller clubs the opportunity for potentially money-spinning replays. Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola, speaking ahead of tonight's Champions League clash with Borussia Dortmund, bemoaned the situation and revealed his side's Premier League game at Arsenal next month could be postponed so the Gunners can rearrange their match with PSV. Guardiola said: 'The fixtures are so tight every season. Now it is different because the players will

stop for the World Cup and have a break in winter time. 'After this month's international break, we will have a month and a half with a lot of games. We have seven Premier League games, although it depends if the Arsenal match is postponed. Then it is the World Cup. We will see how the players come back from that, especially their moods — good or bad, depending on what has happened with their countries — and after that, in the last three or four months of competition, we do all we can to be there at the end.'



Worry: Guardiola AFP

stuns Conte

150

SPORTING ended Tottenham's unbeaten start to the season. It was Spurs' first loss for 150 days — since Brighton inflicted a 1-0 home Premier League defeat on April 16.

'We can't make bad mistakes like that in this competition'

By SAMI MOKBEL
Chief Football Reporter

ANTONIO CONTE told his Tottenham players they paid the price for mistakes following their Champions League capitulation in Lisbon.

Spurs were on course for a point before Sporting hit two goals in the dying seconds to inflict the Premier League team's first defeat of the season. Conte's men missed a host of chances and the Italian said: 'The Champions League level is very high. You have to reduce the mistakes because at the end you can pay and we paid, we paid a lot. 'Now, instead of a draw, we are talking about a loss against a team used to playing in this competition. It's a pity. 'All of the players know the level is an important level and you have to continue to improve yourself. A draw would have been more fair but Sporting were good to take their moment. 'We could not score and tried to win the game and then in the last 10 minutes we could have done much better.

'They scored with a corner and then the second goal after 90 minutes. It's a pity but it was a difficult game. 'We had two or three situations where we could have done much better but now we must rest and think about the Premier League.' Sporting forward Marcus Edwards, who came through the ranks at Tottenham, produced a man-of-the-match performance.

'I wouldn't say extra special but it was a strange feeling playing against Spurs,' he said. 'I was there for so long, so it was good to see people I know. 'Winning at the end, it feels great. We put in a hard shift. I couldn't be happier.' On the prospect of an England call-up, Edwards added: 'I wouldn't say that's crossed my mind. 'I'm just focused on what I'm doing here.'

REUTERS/EPA

EDWARDS 8.5 (Gomes 90), Goncalves 7.5.
Scorers: Paulinho 90, Gomes 90+3.
Booked: Morita, Reis.
Manager: Ruben Amorim 8.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (3-4-3): Lloris 6; Romero 6.5, Dier 6.5, Davies 6.5; Emerson 6.5, Hojbjerg 6.5, Bentancur 7, Perisic 7; Son 6 (Kulusevski 72, 6), Kane 6, Richarlison 6.5.
Booked: Royal, Hojbjerg, Bentancur.
Manager: Antonio Conte: 6.5.
Referee: Srdjan Jovanovic (Ser) 6.5.
Attendance: 39,899.

Sheen invited to give Wales team talk!

MICHAEL SHEEN will be asked to give a pre-match speech to the Wales squad after boss Rob Page saw the actor give a rousing address on television. The Hollywood actor used his recent appearance on *A League Of Their Own* to show how he would inspire Wales's players before they meet England in the World Cup in Qatar in November. The video of Sheen has more than 13million views on social media and Page said: 'I'd like to meet him, absolutely. 'Welsh football is in a good place at the moment. I've had pals that live in England saying to

By TOM COLLOMOSSE

me, "Wow, to be Welsh must be unbelievable". 'I've already had messages from the players. They want to get (Michael Sheen) in straight away, absolutely. 'I was in a meeting in Cardiff and I was going back up north and my phone was going bananas, so I knew something had kicked off. 'When I watched it, I was in awe of it, it was unbelievable. 'I've had some great reaction from the players and the staff. When you've got the passion to

do that, we've got to use it to our benefit.' Page was handed a four-year contract this week after leading Wales to their first World Cup since 1958, and only the second in their history. They face Belgium, who topped their qualifying group, in the Nations League a week tomorrow. Page added: 'It's fantastic. I well up every time I watch it. Personally, I want to thank him for doing that. 'I want to let him know that I appreciate what he's done. We're on the map, but he's taken it to another level for us.'



Red alert: Sane beats Ter Stegen to double Bayern's lead GETTY IMAGES

Lewandowski's return to Bayern spoiled by Sane

ROBERT LEWANDOWSKI was welcomed back home by Bayern Munich supporters and then sent packing by his former club as the German side beat Barcelona. Lewandowski has already scored nine goals for his new club but was guilty of a catalogue of misses as Barcelona wasted chance after chance against ruthless Bayern. 'We let them off too much,' said Barcelona coach Xavi. 'We missed six or seven chances and they punish you.'

Xavi also lamented his side's defending in the second half, with former Chelsea full back Marcos Alonso, making his full debut, partly at fault for Bayern's opener. 'The first goal is a marking error and the second goal we don't foul. They were committing little fouls to break up our attacks but that's the Champions League. You have to compete.'

Barcelona started the game looking nothing like a side that lost 3-0 here last season and had never beaten Bayern in Munich in 13 attempts. Manuel Neuer denied Pedri with an outstretched left leg in the ninth minute, then Lewandowski missed the first of his three early chances, having his effort from Gavi's cross deflected out for a corner.

The Poland striker, 34, who spent eight seasons at Bayern, was on a mission to score against his old team but his finishing was off with a volley from Gavi's cross going just over Neuer's bar.

Lewandowski's name was applauded pre-match when announced to Bayern supporters and he clapped back. There were also embraces and handshakes in the tunnel before kick-off with his old team-mates.

Lewandowski had another chance when Alonso crossed deep from the left but Neuer was there again to foil him at the far post.

It was almost half-time when Marc-Andre ter Stegen finally had to make his first save, at his near post from Noussair Mazraoui. It was Mazraoui who denied

	BAYERN MUNICH	2
	BARCELONA	0

By PETE JENSON

Lewandowski again three minutes before the break, blocking as he took aim in the six-yard box. Barcelona finished the half well and Alphonso Davies looked to have upended Ousmane Dembele in the area but referee Pol van Boekel was unmoved.

Bayern took advantage of that decision by starting the second half strongly, with substitute Leon Goretzka forcing Ter Stegen into a full-length save. From the resulting corner they went in front when Lucas Hernandez headed in Joshua Kimmich's corner. Alonso looked to have lost his marker and Ter Stegen chose to stay on his line. Both were helpless as Hernandez opened the scoring — and four minutes later it was two. This time Barcelona were sliced open down the middle with Jamal Musiala allowed to venture forward unattended. He played in Leroy Sane and the former Manchester City forward nudged the ball past the advancing Ter Stegen before Jules Kounde could make a challenge.

Barcelona had sizzled in the first half but Bayern had thrown a wet rag over all that fire and spark. Xavi's team tried to react but Pedri hit a post when put through by Lewandowski. The opportunities got no better than that one as the hosts managed the game to the final whistle. Barcelona made enough chances to beat Bayern twice but missed them all and paid the price.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Bayern Munich ...	2	2	0	0	4	0	4	6
Barcelona	2	1	0	1	5	3	2	3
Inter	2	1	0	1	2	2	0	3
Viktoria Plzen	2	0	0	2	1	7	-6	0

SCAN THE CODE FOR BONUS MAIL+ CHAMPIONS LEAGUE COVERAGE



SCAN ME

MARTIN SAMUEL

Chief Sports Writer

at Anfield

LIVERPOOL

Salah 17
Matip 89

AJAX

Kudus 27

2

1

JOEL MATIP had never scored for Liverpool in the Champions League. He hadn't scored a goal in the competition since December 11, 2013, for Schalke against Basle, in fact.

Still, there's a first time for everything, and it was certainly time for a goal, with another group game slipping away for Liverpool and precious few points on the board.

There was a minute of normal time to go and the scores were tied 1-1. Liverpool were heading for one point from six, with home and away matches against Rangers next. Battle of Britain encounters are notoriously difficult and hostile, and Liverpool were going to need wins in both.

And then, as so often happens to this team in Europe, they found a way. It just wasn't a way that was expected — through the notoriously goal-shy Matip.

He scored three last season — the most prolific campaign of his Liverpool career — but never one as important as this. It may only be the early stages of this competition, but it removes some of the pressure from Jurgen Klopp's men.

And had it not gone in, who knows how the remaining four games might have panned out? If Klopp complains about the fixtures now, he certainly wouldn't enjoy life in the Europa League.

Instead, Matip's winner set the club on a happier path. A curling

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Napoli	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3
Liverpool	2	1	0	1	3	5	-2	3
Ajax	2	1	0	1	5	2	3	3
Rangers	1	0	0	1	0	4	-4	0

shot from Mo Salah was deflected on to a post by Calvin Bassey for a corner. Kostas Tsimikas, in for the injured Andy Robertson, went over to take it on the left. He picked out Matip, whose header crossed the line before an Ajax man could repel it.

And that was enough. The linesman was signalling a goal even before referee Artur Dias got the notification that it was in. Replays showed the ball was well over. And Anfield erupted, as it has done on so many nights like this, when the men in red have somehow found a way through. They were the best team, they deserved it. But these are stressful times, and Liverpool are vulnerable, still.

So yes, Klopp got the home win the reverse in Naples demanded, but this will not be an easy group for last season's Champions League finalists.

True, they have got out of tighter corners before, but Liverpool's domestic inconsistencies have spread to Europe, where they are so often most at home.

Certainly, it could have been worse. In the 75th minute, a cross from Dusan Tadic picked out Daley Blind unmarked at the far post. It was a straightforward header, a gimme really. Blind tried

15

MOHAMED SALAH now has more goals for Liverpool at Anfield in the Champions League than any other player. His strike took him one ahead of Steven Gerrard's tally of 14 goals.



Matip steps up to rescue Reds

Late winner gives Liverpool lift-off in Europe

to send it back across goal and in at the far corner, a smart angle, but he misjudged it. The ball flew wide. Had that gone in, Liverpool could have been close to adrift.

Instead they will hope Napoli and Ajax do each other no favours in their head to heads, allowing Liverpool to take advantage against Rangers. Yet nothing is certain on this form.

Earlier, Liverpool had taken the lead from a more predictable source. Salah sits in good company with his 34 Champions League goals, and counting, for Liverpool in Europe.

Only four players have been more prolific for English clubs. Thierry Henry and Ruud van Nistelrooy with 35 for Arsenal and Manchester United, Sergio Aguero and Didier Drogba with 36 for Manchester City and Chelsea.

And after a disastrous group opening, true to form it was Salah who set Liverpool on course here.

Ajax are a dangerous team, even without Erik ten Hag to steer them, even without Antony to terrify defences. As Klopp pointed out prior to kick-off, they are in much better form than Liverpool this season.

Yet it was Salah who broke the deadlock after just 17 minutes. Alisson played a long ball forward which was nodded on by Luis Diaz to Diogo Jota. He played in Salah, who was coming like an express train on the right, with Blind lost, putting a sharp finish past goalkeeper Remko Pasveer.

It was an opening spell when Liverpool could have achieved proper distance. Diaz had a low shot travel just wide after 21 minutes, and Trent Alexander-Arnold hit one narrowly over. Yet problems remain. Liverpool are vulnerable at the back and, after 27 minutes, so it proved.

Steven Berghuis should really not have got in behind Alexander-

Arnold with such ease but so many do these days, and he did.

His cross travelled through the legs of Matip, falling to Ghana international Mohammed Kudus in the middle. He took a touch with his left to nudge the ball wide of Virgil van Dijk and then hit a thunderous shot, which defeated Alisson, striking the underside of the bar and dropping down.

It looked great — although not from Klopp's point of view. Easy to see why Kudus attracted the interest of Everton this summer, too.

To get Ajax through to half-time still level required a fine rearguard action by their experienced goalkeeper Pasveer. He's 38 and most famous for repelling Erling Haaland in this competition last year — he stopped three consecutive shots of his, all on target — and he frustrated Liverpool twice in seven minutes.

With 10 minutes remaining of the first half, Van Dijk met a corner

from Alexander-Arnold and Pasveer made a fine, low save before the loose ball was mopped up.

Soon after, Alexander-Arnold made a marauding run down the right, only for Pasveer to block his shot with his chest. The ball fell handily to the feet of the Liverpool man only for Pasveer to be equal to this one, too.

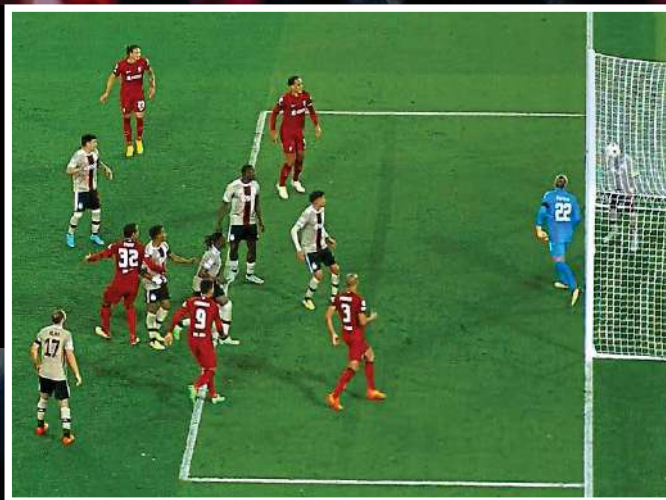
And now, a brief digression, on the sound of silence. Those of us who felt that Liverpool's supporters would rise to the occasion of the minute devoted to the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II will feel largely vindicated because the overwhelming majority of the 52,000 present did exactly that.

There were no mass choruses of boos, no wide demonstration of dissent. Three times the crowd fell silent, the first two being false alarms such as UEFA's rather confused handling of the process.

Finally, when referee Dias of Portugal gathered the players in

High and mighty: Matip leaps to score the winner, awarded by goal-line technology after just crossing the line

GETTY IMAGES



the middle and blew his whistle signalling the short ceremony could begin, Anfield became respectfully quiet.

The odd voice then cried out, crassly, which can happen in a stadium. Sadly, no-one can vouch entirely for the common sense, empathy and sobriety of every last soul present. The problem is that such a voice embarrasses and insults others, who realise the eyes of the world are watching and who then attempt to bring order, and therefore more noise results.

In the end, Dias grew nervous and blew his whistle early, just 24 seconds in. For Liverpool, the club and the city, that would have been disappointing. For the majority of supporters here, too.

And if the loudmouths thought they had struck a blow against the Royal Family, they did not. They acted in opposition to the Hillsborough families, who had requested silence in the hope it would be reciprocated by rival fans at their ceremonies; and to the family of Sir Kenny Dalglish, who were also present. Sir Kenny, too, had asked that this sombre commemoration be respected.

Those who stood against Liverpool's own royalty must this morning stand so proud. They will discover how others feel about their thoughtlessness down the line, no doubt.

LIVERPOOL (4-3-3): Alisson 7.5; Alexander-Arnold 6, Matip 7, Van Dijk 7, Tsimikas 6; Elliott 6 (Firmino 66min, 6), Fabinho 6, **THIAGO** 8 (Bajcetic 90); Salah 7, Jota 7 (Nunez 66, 6.5), Diaz 6 (Milner 90). **Scorers:** Salah 17, Matip 89. **Booked:** Matip. **Manager:** Jurgen Klopp 6.5.

AJAX (4-3-3): Pasveer 7; Rensch 7 (Sanchez 68, 6), Timber 7.5, Bassey 7.5, Blind 7; Berghuis 7, Alvarez 7, Taylor 7 (Grillitsch 80); Tadic 6, Kudus 7 (Brobbey 86), Bergwijn 7. **Scorer:** Kudus 27. **Booked:** Alvarez, Berghuis. **Manager:** Alfred Schreuder 6.5. **Referee:** Artur Dias (Portugal) 7. **Att:** 52,387.

By **DOMINIC KING**

JOEL MATIP could not hide his delight after his dramatic late winner flattened Ajax to bring respite for Jurgen Klopp. Liverpool, thrashed 4-1 last week at Napoli, were heading for a disappointing draw but Matip won it with his first goal for the club in Europe in the 89th minute.

He said: 'I was very happy I could score. I was not sure it had gone in but all my emotion came out when I found out.' Defender Virgil van Dijk added: 'Coming from the horror show in Napoli, it was not easy to show a positive reaction but this is step in right direction. 'It was very important to win and get that good feeling going. I should have scored, we were dangerous in corners, luckily the one and only Matip converted. 'There are lots of former footballers speaking, trying to get us down. We know last week was bad but this is a step in the right direction, although we won't get carried away.' In normal circumstances, Klopp (above) would have saluted the Kop at the final whistle but, on this occasion, he struck a far more reserved figure in keeping with the tone of a night that had an atmosphere unlike many European matches here.

Joy for Joel as Reds bounce back from Napoli horror

A period of silence was held before kick-off for the Queen but it was called to a halt after 24 seconds by match officials after one fan booed, another shouted 'Liverpool' and there was some muffled discord.



Klopp said: 'It is very important to win but I think the story of the game is typical, not for our season so far but for the situation we are in. We do a lot of good stuff, we played a really good game.

'Then we concede when we are 1-0 up and concede the first chance. The reaction was okay, not perfect but OK. Our pressing was not as convincing as before, not a big difference but it makes a big difference. 'That is what we try to improve again in the second half. You saw in the second half more fouls from their side, more interruptions. But we did really well, quick set pieces, we tried to take advantage and sometimes you have to take a bit longer.'

Nunez looks like Klopp's odd man out

THE man who had arrived with hopes and dreams of becoming a hero cut an interesting figure on Liverpool's most significant night of the season.

Champions League matches at Anfield offer a platform for signings to propel themselves into this stadium's affections. These occasions matter and have the ability to enhance reputations significantly, as Darwin Nunez would know.

It was here in April, when Benfica were pursuing a hopeless cause in the quarter-finals, that the Uruguayan looked like he would find a way through Liverpool's defence whenever he so desired, scoring once in a 3-3 draw and having a couple of others ruled out for offside.

Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp was so impressed with what he saw that evening — not to mention during the first leg in Lisbon — that his side invested £85million in the summer for him to be the new focal point of their team. When you read that back, you would assume his starting place was guaranteed.

Not so. As in Naples last week, Klopp chose to leave Nunez among his substitutes, despite making four changes following a performance he colourfully — and rightfully — described as being 'a horror show'. Such decisions speak volumes about situations.

So as Mohamed Salah, Diogo Jota and Luis Diaz combined, Nunez took his place on a seat behind Klopp, often staring blankly out at the pitch as the action unfolded in front of him. At half-time, meanwhile, he took part in rondos with James Milner, Joe Gomez and Fabio Carvalho.

This is not making a snap judgment or suggesting that Liverpool have bought a dud in Nunez. The quality of clubs who wanted to take him from Benfica this summer and who tried in January tells you he is a young man with talent and, in flashes, he has shown it in red.

But the very fact Klopp has used Nunez in bit-part roles, as Liverpool set off on a road they hope will lead them back to Istanbul next June, tells you that his acclimatisation is taking longer than anticipated.

Perhaps the early cameos against Manchester City in the Community Shield, when he won a penalty and



DOMINIC KING

Northern Football Correspondent at Anfield

then scored the decisive third goal in a 3-1 victory, and against Fulham, when he scored again and set up another for Salah have not been particularly helpful.

After the City triumph, the narrative became who would score more — Nunez or Erling Haaland — but the Norwegian's staggeringly smooth transition has made this a non-contest. How can it be when he is only fleetingly on the pitch?

Klopp eventually ushered Nunez into the action on the hour here, sending him on his way with a hug and a slap on the back. He was enthusiastic and the way in which he charged towards the action made

MINUTE'S SILENCE IS BOOED AT WREXHAM

PLEAS for supporters to observe a minute's silence at Wrexham fell on deaf ears last night as a minority of fans reduced it to a shambles, writes **IAN HERBERT**. Several fans booed at the Kop end after the whistle was blown for the silence to begin, before the National League home game against Dagenham and Redbridge, leading other infuriated fans to shout them down. This ruined any attempt at a show of respect for the Queen.

you wonder if he was too hyped up. Quickly, he got involved in the game and there was a moment when he could have made himself a hero, in the 82nd minute, when the ball sat up for him in front of the Kop but his finish was hurried and he dragged his shot wide of Remko Pasveer, Ajax's goalkeeper.

Another opening came in the next attack, when he bulldozed his way to the byline and fizzed a cross into the six-yard box that evaded everyone. Still, he would not be disheartened and Nunez enjoyed geeing the supporters up.

He will only be truly happy, though, when the goals start flying in.



Respect: Liverpool and Ajax pay tribute to Her Majesty

GETTY IMAGES

UEFA OWN GOAL ON NATIONAL ANTHEM

Ridiculous call to refuse British clubs permission to honour the Queen at tonight's European matches

EXCLUSIVE
By **MIKE KEEGAN**

UEFA have turned down requests from British clubs to play the national anthem before European matches tonight following the Queen's death.

Manchester City, Chelsea and Rangers made pleas to play *God Save the King* ahead of their home fixtures this evening.

However, despite the country being in a period of mourning, UEFA refused 'on the basis of maintaining a consistent pre-match ceremony with a subdued atmosphere and without any celebratory activities across all UK venues to show respect'.

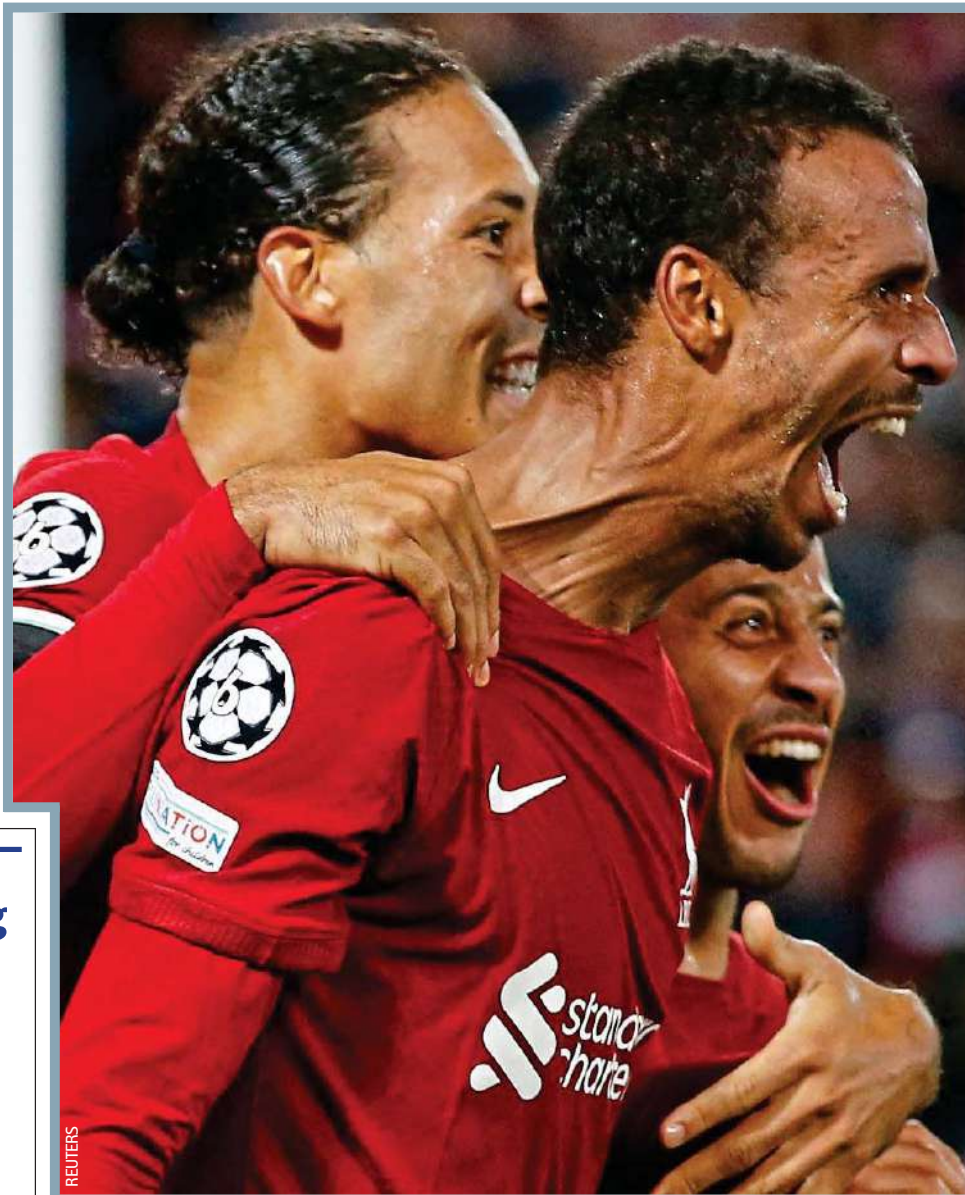
Sportsmail understands that Rangers intend to defy the ban, playing the anthem following a period of silence. It remains to be seen whether their counterparts in England do likewise and face the consequences, which include a potential fine. Fans may well decide to take matters into their own hands.

UEFA confirmed the Champions League anthem would not be played before kick-off and black armbands would be worn by teams and staff where requested.

City play Borussia Dortmund, Chelsea entertain Salzburg and Rangers face Napoli in a match with no away fans present.

It is understood that Liverpool, who beat Ajax last night, did not make a request to play the anthem. Football League clubs played it before their matches.

MPs' FURY OVER UEFA CALL: PAGE 13



RED ROAR

MATIP'S LATE HEADER EARNS VITAL WIN FOR LIVERPOOL

JOEL MATIP ignited Liverpool's Champions League campaign with a dramatic late header to seal a vital win over Ajax at Anfield last night. Liverpool, thrashed last week at Napoli, had been pegged back to 1-1 when Mohammed Kudus cancelled out Mo Salah's strike, but Matip (left) won it in the 89th minute.

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



LIVERPOOL.....2
AJAX.....1

SPORTING.....2
TOTTENHAM...0

MATCH REPORTS: PAGES 76-79

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QUICK CROSSWORD

9,268

ACROSS

- 1 Worries (6)
4 Open to view (5)
7 Steam-powered aquatic vehicle (6,4)
8 Very dry (4)
9 Sublime (5)
11 Rare metallic element (7)
13 Gull, say (3,4)
15 ___ Mirren, actress (5)

- 17 Prisoner's room (4)
18 Observance one week before Easter (4,6)
20 Little (5)
21 Clerk's workplace (6)

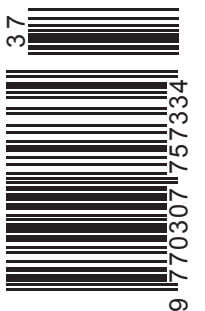
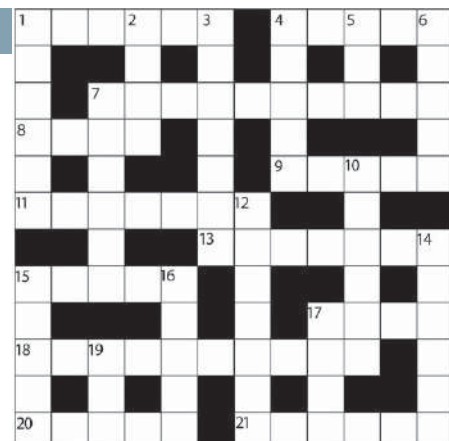
DOWN

- 1 Nauseous (6)
2 Be in front (4)
3 Number puzzles (7)
4 Large sea (5)

- 5 One's image of oneself (3)
6 Epithet (5)
7 Handgun (6)
10 Outer wall of a castle (6)
12 Souvenir (7)
14 Expand (6)
15 Aspirations (5)
16 Relating to the nose (5)
17 Leg part (4)
19 Meadow (3)

TUESDAY'S SOLUTION (NO 9,267) - ACROSS: 1 Invests. 5 Salt. 7 Fin. 8 Up in arms. 9 Nacho. 10 Trap. 13 Name. 14 Rove. 18 Anon. 19 Lines. 21 Towering. 22 Exe. 23 Bees. 24 Guesses. DOWN: 1 Infantry. 2 Vena cava. 3 Stupor. 4 Shifty. 5 Shaman. 6 Lime. 11 Painless. 12 Reassess. 15 Enters. 16 Ending. 17 Plague. 20 Doze.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



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SUDOKU FILL in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9. **SOLUTIONS TOMORROW**

	9	5	4		7	2		
2		4				1		5
			8					
6	3		1					
		7						
				5	4			
9	1		7					2
	7		3	8			9	
							3	1

Difficulty rating ★★★★★

4				5			6	
					9		3	5
6		3	4					
7						6	2	9
			8		2			
	2		3	1		8		
		6			7	5		
5	1			4		7		

Difficulty rating ★★★★★

PRIZE SUDOKU

					2	4	6	
	2			1	5	7		
	3				4	2		
8						6		
			9	7				8
5							1	
		7	1	8			2	
4		5	6		7		9	
	1	9		4				

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£500**

REVEAL the three shaded squares for your chance to win £500. **HOW TO ENTER:** Call 0901 292 5009 and leave today's three-number answer (reading left to right) and your details. Or text **SUDOKU** to 65700 with your answer and name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. One weekly winner chosen from all correct entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Friday. Answers change daily at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Full terms apply, see Page 58.



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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD

WIN A LUXURY CROSS PEN

SEE BELOW

1		2		3		4			5	6		7		8
								9						
10								11						
12						13								
16		17												
18														
												19	20	
21				22								23		
24												25		
26												27		

PLAY our accumulator game! Every day this week, solve the crossword to find the letter in the pink circle. On Friday, we'll provide instructions to submit your five-letter word for your chance to win a luxury Cross pen. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply. Entries cost 50p.

ACROSS

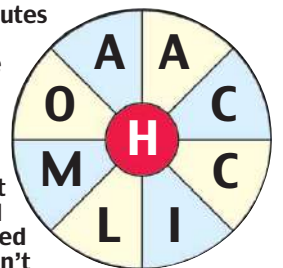
- 1 A draw or deadlock (5-3)
- 5 A houseplant whose species include bee, moth and the white helleborine (6)
- 10 The process of laying on paint or pigment thickly so that it stands out from a surface (7)
- 11 To cover or surround completely (7)
- 12 ___ winds, those that blow east to west just north and south of the equator (5)
- 13 Large-calibre guns used in warfare on land (9)
- 14 Golfer who won the 2022 Players Championship in Florida by one stroke (7,5)
- 18 Estimating the age of very old organic material from the amount of a radioactive isotope in it (6,6)
- 21 Old name for sulphur that is also that of a bright yellow butterfly (9)
- 23 ___ Rani, English broadcaster born in 1977 and noted for her presenting on Countryfile (5)
- 24 Burdensome (7)
- 25 To gratify one's appetites freely (7)
- 26 County cricket team whose nickname in the T20 Blast competition is Sharks (6)
- 27 To cut down expenses (8)

DOWN

- 1 Upright poles with supports for the feet enabling the user to walk above the ground (6)
- 2 A request for donations to support a charity or cause (6)
- 3 Song by Eagles that was released on an album of the same name in 1973 (9)
- 4 Expression meaning 'to waste energy on a situation that cannot be changed' (4,1,4,5)
- 6 Maurice, French composer noted for his orchestral piece Bolero (5)
- 7 Name for the Old Swiss Confederacy derived from the name of a Gaulish tribe (8)
- 8 Paintings, often altarpieces, on two hinged wooden panels that can close like a book (8)
- 9 Crime novel by Agatha Christie that was adapted for a 2022 film directed by Kenneth Branagh (5,2,3,4)
- 15 City on the northern coast of Spain that is noted for the Magdalena Palace (9)
- 16 Salacious or bordering on the indecent (8)
- 17 Two-wheeled carts that can be towed and dragged by a car, bicycle or tractor (8)
- 19 Stringed instrument whose players include Hilary Hahn and Stephane Grappelli (6)
- 20 ___ Keenan, salesman played by Mackenzie Crook in the UK version of The Office (6)
- 22 Town in Perth and Kinross housing a palace and abbey that both bear its name (5)

WORD WHEEL

YOU have ten minutes to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each word must use the hub letter and at least three others, and letters may be used only once. You can't use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. Verbs ending in 's' permitted. Clue for today's nine-letter word: Send trainer on postal transport. **RATING:** 10 words, average; 15, good; 20, very good; 25 or more, excellent. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**



SUDOKU X

3								
							4	
6								
	2							
				5	3			

PUT 1-6 once in each row, column, diagonal (highlighted to form an X) and horizontal 3x2 box (ruled). **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

**WRITE YOUR LETTERS
IN THESE SQUARES**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri

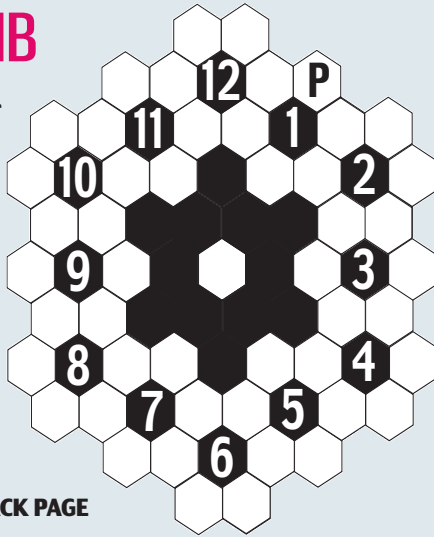
SOLUTION TOMORROW

HONEYCOMB

ALL the solutions read clockwise around their numbers. The solution to clue number 1 starts from the given letter.

- Jail
- Pressed
- Protect
- Almost
- Beautiful
- Goodness
- Speaks
- Outcome
- Sorrow
- Alters
- Chauffeurs
- Beginner

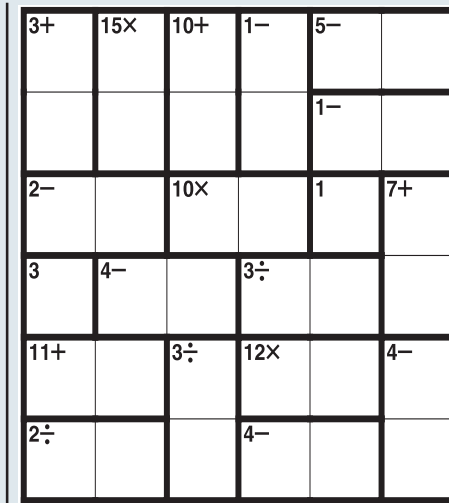
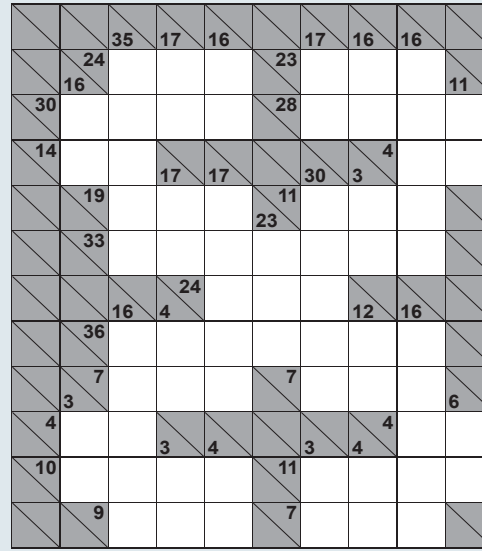
SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE



KAKURO

FILL in the blank squares of the grid using only the numbers 1 to 9, without repeating any number in any line of blank squares. The lines must be filled in with numbers which add up to the total in the shaded box at the top or beginning of each line. A number in the bottom half of a shaded box gives a downwards total; in the top half, it's a horizontal total.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



MASTERQUIZ

- What name is given to the strip of land, granted to Poland by the Treaty Of Versailles in 1919, that separated East Prussia from the rest of Germany?
- Which French Rococo painter, whose works include a portrait of the clown Gilles (Pierrot), is famous for his fetes galantes?
- Which Scottish town on the River Tummel is noted for its Festival Theatre?

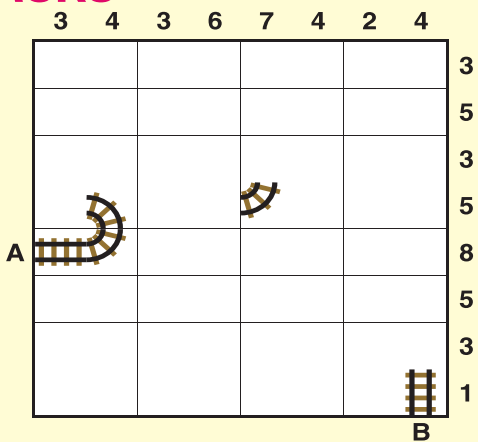
- Which British actress will star in upcoming historical drama series The English, set in the Wild West?
- What was the first name of Robert Baden-Powell's younger sister, who helped him establish the Girl Guide movement?
- Which breed of short-haired cat was previously known as Chestnut Brown Oriental?

SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

TRAIN TRACKS

LAY tracks to enable the train to travel from village A to village B. The numbers indicate how many sections of rail go in each row and column. There are only straight rails and curved rails. The track cannot cross itself.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



MINDBENDER

- Doreen is two dozen years younger than Marcus, who is five-sixths as old as Salim, who is twice as old as Doreen. How old is Salim?
- What connects man, discus and diver?
- Which newspaper owner may have RID WANTONLY?

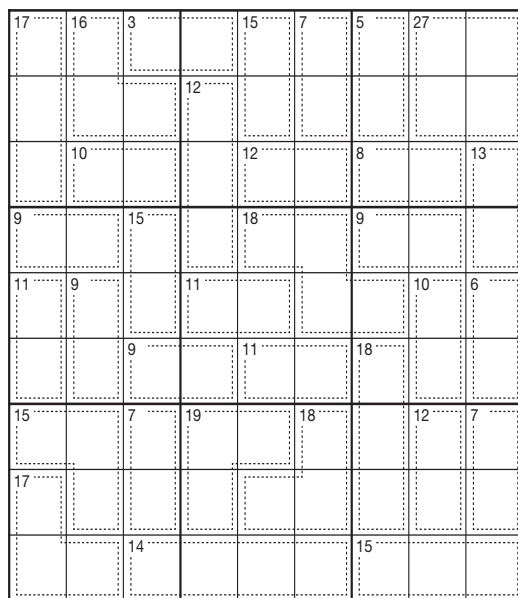
- Which is the odd one out: cuisse, oubliette, cuirass, pauldron?
- Starting with A, add a letter and shuffle to make a new word each time until you reach RECALLING.

SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

KILLER SUDOKU

FILL in squares in the grid so each row, column and each 3x3 square contains all digits from 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the number in the top-left corner. Numbers can't be repeated within each set of cells.

SOLUTION TOMORROW
NEED A CLUE? Call 0901 293 6238 or text KILLER to 65700 and receive four clues to today's puzzle. Calls and texts cost £1 plus your standard network charges. Today's clues available between 00.01 today and 23.30 only.



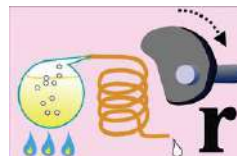
PITCHERWITS™



1a. Put on top of a pile that the supremos designed (11)



14a. Twine, as tied, when you've trouble (2,1,4)



1d. Matrices all distorted by one that's not a movie? (5,6)



6d. Refrain from? Anyhow, it's a ban! (7)



5a. Weighs, I'd say, at the edge of the road (7)



16a. What you've got to do with ensigns tangled at the mast (11)



4d. Totally includes erroneous spacemen's SOS (11)



8d. Carelessly do crime towards rodents? (7)

ACROSS

- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue
- Deficit, somewhat glossed over (4)
- Space for Aussie Joey getting married (4)

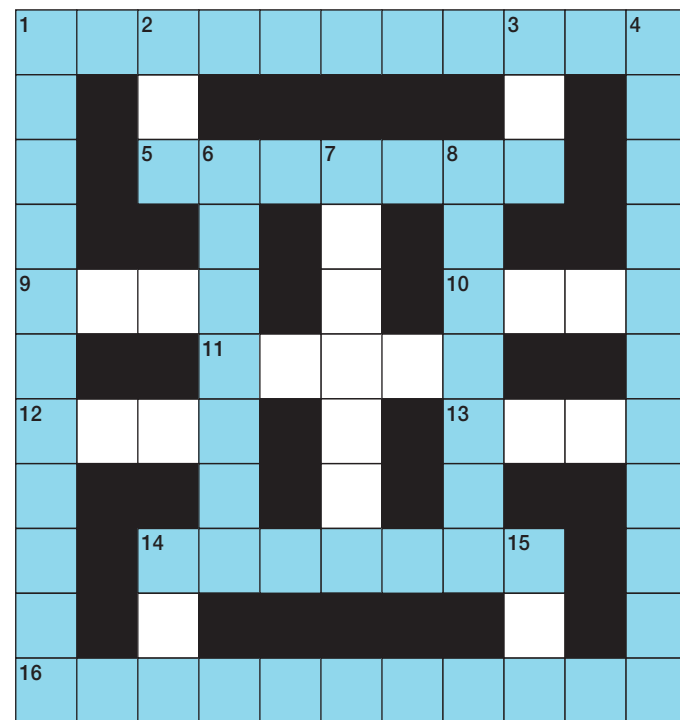
- Met to design the emblem (5)
- Ariadne's the first to give song (4)
- I said, 'In Greece?' (4)

- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION — ACROSS: 1 Motley crew. 5 Salesmen. 9 Nowt. 10 Fora. 11 Adieu. 12 Iron. 14 Hi-fi. 15 Dragnets. 18 Blue whales. DOWN: 1 Magnified. 2 Last man. 3 Cue. 4 Woe. 6 Lucille. 7 Moo. 8 Neap tides. 10 Fuchsia. 13 Ora. 16 Rub. 17 Nee.

PIT your wits against Pitcherwits — the exciting puzzle where some of the answers are in pictures! The solutions to the visual clues fit into the shaded spaces on the grid.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

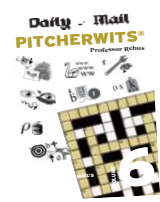


DOWN

- Picture Clue
- Foot is a poor, but audible substitute (3)
- Poem from the Antipodes (3)
- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue

- Little current exists, sadly, in these swingin' times (7)
- Picture Clue
- Finally admits the thing's there (3)
- Succeed in allowing? (3)

PITCHERWITS BOOK



TO ORDER Daily Mail Pitcherwits Vol 6 by Professor Rebus for £6.29, go to mailshop.co.uk/books or call 020 3308 9193. Free p&p on orders over £20.

MAILWORD NEW

ACROSS

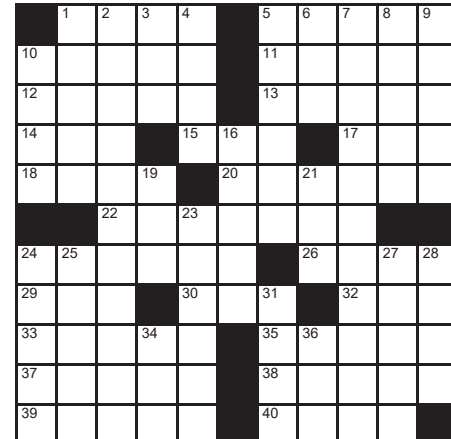
- Enormous
- Roman garments
- Vegetable mix
- Planet
- Proverb
- Move on ice
- Prate
- Louse egg
- Contend
- In a frenzied state
- Dismiss
- Withdraw
- Remain
- Mark correct
- Cooking vessel
- Strike wood
- Weapon
- Digression
- Hostility
- Rub clean
- Unreactive

39 Mite-affected skin

40 Rage

DOWN

- Term of address
- Ornamentation
- Joke
- Yemeni port
- Examined
- Durable wood
- Cemetery worker
- Garret
- Piece of paper
- Long story
- Adler, Sherlock Holmes character
- 'Enter' or 'alt', e.g.
- Spout



- Hold together
- Convulsion
- Puccini opera
- Indian dish
- Nautical mile per hour

- Child that's been abandoned
- Enjoyed, informally
- Wildbeest

SOLUTION TOMORROW

QUICK QUIZ

- Which singer-songwriter released the album Human in 2017?
- What does the cookery term chiffonade mean?
- Jill Scott has joined which other England women's footballer in announcing her retirement following their Euro 2022 victory?
- What was the codename for Hitler's invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941?
- What follows 'Head' and 'Shoulders' in the first line of the children's rhyme?

SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

KENKEN

EACH row and column should contain 1 to 6 without repeats. Numbers in cages must combine to produce the target number shown at start of that cage using, in any order, the mathematical sign given. Single-box cages can be filled with the number given.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

	S	P	O	
S				S
R				S
G				Y
	T	E	E	

ABSOLUTES NINE TO FIVE

FIT the scrambled letters of the given word into the grid to form six five-letter words across and down.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

WORLD'S SMALLEST, HARDEST CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. Musical ability (3)
4. Wood, matter (4)
5. Greek love-god (4)
6. Bird of the crow family (3)

DOWN

1. S Am wildcat (4)
2. Under the decks (naut) (4)
3. Domicile (abbr) (3)
4. Third-person contraction (3)

SOLUTION TOMORROW

	1	2	3
4			
5			
6			

CROSS NUMBER

THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION

	9			25
		8		27
8				28
			8	24
24	25	23	28	21
				25

Today's challenge time: 2 mins 45 secs Your working time: mins secs

FILL each square with a number, 1 to 9. Horizontal squares add up to totals on right. Vertical squares add up to totals on bottom. Diagonal squares through centre add up to totals in top and bottom right.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

CODEWORD

EACH number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Today 15 represents D, so fill in D every time the figure 15 appears. You have one letter in the control grid to start you off. Enter it in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

COMPLETE Codeword to reveal the word in the shaded boxes. **HOW TO ENTER:** Call 0901 293 6232 and leave your answer and your details or text 65700 with the word CODE, your answer and then your name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. One weekly winner chosen from all correct daily entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Saturday. Answers change daily at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply, see Page 58.

1	2	3	3	4	5	6		7	8	5	5	9		14
10		5				11		10		10		5		15
12	13	5	6			11	2	9	12	5	8	7	5	16
2		14		6		9		5		4		15		17
11	10	8	14	16	1	5	5	4	6			4		18
		2		13		6				17	5			19
3	4	2	2	18	6		4	5	7	5	9	15		20
5			14			19		18		8				21
14			6	11	8	20	21	20	4	2	20	6		22
16		22		10		10		6		11		13		23
5	18	13	6	6	10	8	23		8	13	17	17		24
5		9		24		14			14		14			25
9	5	25	20	6		26	5	21	1	23	8	6		26

YESTERDAY: **CODEWORD** Volume Thirteen

**** Volume Thirteen Now Available! ****

£6.95 (inc p&p) cheque/postal order payable to Knight Features: B207 Trident Centre, 89 Bickersteth Rd, London SW17 9SH. Credit card orders via www.codewordbook.co.uk. Selected previous volumes also available. Allow 14 days for delivery.

NEED A CLUE? Text the word CODEWORD to 65700 to receive FOUR clues to today's puzzle or call 0901 293 6200. Texts and calls cost £1 plus your standard network charges. Today's clues available between 00.01 today and 23.30 only.

WIN £750

SCRABBLE® BRAND

■ The board on the right shows four rows of letters from a typical Scrabble game. Use each row to form a word of 2-7 letters and write it in the blank squares provided. Then add up the score for each row. Don't forget to use the double and triple word and letter scores — and add a 50-point bonus for every 7-letter word. Blank tiles can be used for any letter but have no score. See tomorrow's paper for the solution.

SCRABBLE® and SCRABBLE® Tiles are registered trademarks. All rights in the game are owned in the USA by Hasbro Inc, in Canada by Hasbro Canada Inc, and elsewhere by J.W. Spear & Sons Ltd, a subsidiary of Mattel, Inc.

Double Word Score

Triple Score on 4th Letter

PAR SCORE 170-180 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

Yesterday's solution: ERASURE 64 SPUMOUS 61 MEALY 18 FLIRTED 83 JUDD'S TOTAL: 226

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A	I	N	O	T	A	T	A	C
S	J	U	P	Z	H	V	F	H
R	G	J	C	T	O	N	X	O
J	Y	D	U	F	F	Y	D	N
R	R	O	L	L	E	V	O	N
S	E	N	O	J	E	L	E	E
Q	P	L	A	G	D	B	X	W
Z	R	A	Y	L	E	G	H	G
R	X	G	H	T	R	Z	Q	E
L	E	L	B	A	S	S	E	Y
M	U	C	H	P	M	I	R	D

WORD SEARCH

THE listed words can all be found in the grid — running forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonally — EXCEPT ONE. For a chance to win, discover which word from the list can't be found in the Word Search.

- BASSEY GWENNO
CATATONIA JONES
DUFFY NOVELLO
FEEDER STEVENS
G.L.C. TYLER

HOW TO ENTER: Call 0901 293 6234 and leave your answer and details or text 65700 with the word WORD, your answer and your name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. One winner chosen from all correct daily entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Friday. Answers change daily at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply, see Page 58. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

WIN £500

NAME GAME

HIDDEN in the grid is the name of an actress and singer. Answer the questions, then rearrange the letters corresponding to your answers to fill in the name. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

- BOX 1:** What was Selena Gomez's (pictured) debut solo album called? Stars Dance (M) Revival (B) Rare (J)
- BOX 2:** Upcoming TV drama Beyond Paradise will focus on which actor's Death In Paradise character? Kris Marshall (O) Ardal O'Hanlon (W) Danny John-Jules (T)
- BOX 3:** What is the largest living rodent? North American beaver (S) Capybara (R) Pacarana (I)
- BOX 4:** What is the name of Wally's yellow-clad nemesis in the Where's Wally? book series? Wario (U) Wenda (K) Odlaw (D)
- BOX 5:** The Munchkin is a breed of cat with which characteristic? Big eyes (B) Short legs (A) Low bodyweight (V)

- BOX 6:** Which TV soap is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year? Emmerdale (M) EastEnders (T) Home And Away (Z)
- BOX 7:** Who married actor Joe Swash in July? Katie Piper (A) Stacey Solomon (Y) Cherry Healey (L)
- BOX 8:** What, in Australia, is a jackaroo? An outback cry (M) A miniature kangaroo (C) A trainee on a sheep or cattle station (O)
- BOX 9:** Who was DC Comics' first costumed superhero, in 1938? Superman (N) Batman (L) The Flash (E)
- BOX 10:** Which bread is made using fermenting dough? Ciabatta (S) Sourdough (E) Brioche (H)
- Yesterday's answer: RHYS IFANS (1R, 2A, 3S, 4H, 5I, 6N, 7F, 8Y, 9S).
- Picture: PA

GOGEN

- AXED
BOUGH
CRY
FLOWERY
JOB
MILKS
OPT
QUERY
SHY
VAN

T	C		V
B		U	N
M		F	S

INSERT letters to form listed words, moving between adjacent cells horizontally, vertically or diagonally in any direction. Insert all remaining letters of the alphabet (except Z) in the grid so all listed words are spelt out. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

HIDATO COMPLETE the grid so that all the numbers, 1 to 60, connect consecutively — horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Hint: you don't have to begin with 1 or 60. Working on the mid-numbers might give you a better start. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

		8	10		
		7			50
				43	41
	18	13			44
			21	1	54
	28	26		22	38
			25	35	58
					60

